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First batch of JUST students graduates King: Jordan will surmount difficulties

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein said Monday that despite the difficult "resources-versus-population" formula which governs the Kingdom's policies and work programmes, Jordan would, by virtue of its past achievements, make it through the difficult period it is facing.

Speaking at the graduation of the first batch of graduates of the Jordan University of Science and Technology (JUST), King Hussein stressed his belief that the dedicated, committed, hardworking, productive and pious citizen remains Jordan's basic resource. That conviction, he said, will not be shaken because without it the country would surrender, lose confidence in the future and be stripped of its will and freedom to make decisions.

"Those who have doubts in our faith in the citizen, which we described as the real capital of the country, should realise the true reality by comparing the way we

were and the way we have come," the King said.

King Hussein said the first batch of JUST students graduate amidst difficult circumstances dictated by the unusual formula, adding that such a formula had not passed his attention since he assumed his constitutional powers in 1953. He termed the formula as a burden which still occupies most of his time and effort in an attempt to alleviate its impact on all citizens.

The King said that the factors which make up this formula were not unmanageable and expressed hope in the future pointing to Jordan's past achievements, which he said constitute a "source of pride for the country enabling it to surmount the difficult stage, which is not the first of its kind that the country faces."

Jordan, he said, passed through similar experiences and overcame them with the courage and patience of citizens in the

framework of security and safety," which he has been keen and will continue to be keen to ensure and preserve.

King Hussein called on all Jordanian citizens wherever they may be to make preserving of the environment their prime consideration, be it through legislation or educational and informational programmes so that it becomes a national value to abide by in an effort to preserve Jordan's resources. That, he said, is a "responsibility of the present generation towards the future generations just like it is our obligation towards life in general."

The local environment, he said, is part of the world environment and any imbalance in the global environmental system in turn causes harm to the local environment.

Each society, the King said, bears two responsibilities: cooperating with other countries to limit the growing dangers of



His Majesty King Hussein Monday addresses the first batch of graduates from the Jordan University of Science and Technology (Petra photo)

environmental pollution and to protect its local environment.

The King stressed that the Hague conference, which looked into the protection of the environment, constituted a major event in the history of humanity because it inaugurated a new era of responsibility towards humanity and life.

King Hussein paid tribute to all JUST staff and expressed hope

that the university would develop further, particularly in the field of scientific research.

JUST President Kamel Al Ajlouni, who also delivered a speech on the occasion, said JUST was overwhelmed by the care and attention it had received from King Hussein ever since its establishment.

Ajlouni said the university, through the King's directives and

through the work of its dedicated staff, managed to provide educational opportunities for its students based on the freedom of education and commitment to the spirit of sincere and responsible citizenship.

Attending the graduation ceremony was Her Majesty Queen Noor, Prime Minister Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker and a number of officials.

Jordan, India seek joint projects

By Mariam Shaheen
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A two-day Jordanian-Indian seminar opened here Monday with the key theme of developing economic and industrial cooperation between the two countries through joint ventures and economic projects.

Addressing the opening session of the seminar, officially named "Jordan-India Investment Round Table," His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan expressed hope that the gathering would crystallise means to blend Indian industrial expertise with Jordanian manpower and set up joint ventures to form the nucleus of trade between the two countries.

Last year's visit to Jordan by Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and the talks he held with His Majesty King Hussein contributed a great deal towards the development of economic cooperation between India and Jordan, the Crown Prince told the gathering, which included over 100 Jordanian and Indian businessmen.

The Crown Prince said successful cooperation would mean producing competitive, high quality

goods. Jordan hopes to acquire new markets for its products and hopes to open these markets through joint ventures with India, he said.

Khalid Abu Hassan, chairman of the Amman Chamber of Industry, told the seminar, the first meeting between Jordanian and Indian investors, that diversification would enhance trade and economic relations between the two countries.

Gurcharan Singh, India's ambassador to Jordan, said that Indo-Jordanian economic relations were still in their infancy. India's imports from Jordan, mainly phosphate and related products, reached \$110 million last year, but its exports to Jordan of tea, textiles and spices were worth only \$10 million. The ambassador pointed out that India is an industrialised nation which produces high-quality electronic equipment, refrigerators, machinery of various types, construction material, chemicals, medicines, plastic material, textiles and much more. "We would like Jordan to benefit from our production facilities," he said. He pointed out that India had made

major changes in its economic policy, shifting from an emphasis of protective and sheltered market to a liberal and competitive economic system.

Raunaq Singh, head of the Indian Chamber of Industry who is leading the Indian side to the round table, said his country was ready to help Jordan to diversify its economy, expand domestic production and develop indigenous skills.

Finance Minister Basel Jaradat briefed the participants on Jordan's economic situation at a working lunch. Jordan faces a budget deficit of \$900 million which it hopes to cover with Arab aid, new loans and debt rescheduling in accordance with reforms approved by the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the minister said.

He expressed confidence that "the financial gap will be covered in a smooth manner" and said the IMF would approve a \$125 million standby credit to Jordan by early July and that the Kingdom had received \$200 million in aid this year from a number of Arab countries.

The minister, making his first public statement since taking office April 27, said that although Jordan's gross

domestic product (GDP) had fallen by 3.5 per cent in 1988 he hoped that the new debt management policy would reduce inflation from 14 per cent to seven per cent by 1993.

He pointed out that the IMF adjustment programme aimed at achieving price stability, restoring growth rates and balancing the budget and trade deficits. He also assured the audience that the IMF agreed plan had not called for another devaluation of the Jordanian dinar.

Jardat said that despite the difficulties that importers and industrialists were facing in getting foreign currency through the banks, he did not think that the Central Bank would be able to supply foreign currency to banks to meet the needs of the private sector in the near future.

Five intensive working sessions Tuesday afternoon reviewed in detail subjects of bilateral concern.

Jawad Al Azzam, a former minister, chaired a group meeting of all sessions.

A workshop headed by Awni Al Saket, president of the Arab Contractors Union, concentrated on contracting, building materials, steel tubes and pipes, services and transport.

Walid Asfour, a former minister, headed deliberations on projects involving material processing, intermediate products and semi-finished products for export purposes.



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Monday addresses the opening session of the Jordan-India Investment Round Table (Petra photo)

Zaki Ayoubi, a prominent businessman, chaired discussions which centred on engineering industries, automotive parts, electrical, mechanical and electronic joint enterprises, including cold storage and air-conditioning.

All Nsour, general manager of the Arab Potash Company (APC), chaired discussions on chemical industries, phosphate compounds,

acids, fertilisers, Dead Sea chemical derivatives, ammonium fluorides, detergents and rubber goods.

Bahaa Nabulsi, general manager of the Jordan Spinning and Weaving Company, led discussions on textile and textile products and accessories.

The round table resumes Tuesday and conclusions, recommendations and general views are expected to be issued at the final session in the evening.

Gorbachev, Kohl hold intense talks

BONN (Agencies) — Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev arrived Monday for his first state visit to West Germany and plunged into talks with Chancellor Helmut Kohl focusing on arms control.

Gorbachev met with Kohl for more than an hour at the chancellor's office in talks that were reported to have focused on U.S. President George Bush's May 29 proposal to cut conventional arms in Europe.

A West German government spokesman, Manfred Obleeder, said the initial round of talks was "more substantial and intense" than expected, and that it had been extended.

A wedge of motorcycle police led the Soviet leader's black Zil Limousine up the driveway to the chancellor's office, and Gorbachev waved from the open car window to a crowd of about 100 people, some of whom had been standing in the hot afternoon sun for nearly an hour.

Friedbert Pfleger, a spokesman for West German President Richard von Weizsäcker, said an earlier one-hour meeting between the two heads of state focused on political and private subjects.

He said Gorbachev also discussed the new North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) arms-control proposals with the West German head of state in preparation for a joint statement by the two governments. He did not elaborate.

Bush's proposal headed off a potentially serious NATO dispute over short-range nuclear missiles by tying negotiations on them to progress in conventional arms talks. Kohl had been pressing NATO to take up Gorbachev's offer to limit his offer to begin talks on eliminating the weapons. (See related story on page 8)

The Soviet president, leaving behind a bloody dispute in the Central Asian Republic of Uzbekistan (see page 8), came to strengthen ties between East and West, an objective that goes to the heart of this divided nation.

"I arrived with the best feelings and with the wish to do everything so that our relationship and cooperation can develop further," Gorbachev said in a brief exchange with TV reporters at the state residence, Villa Hammerschmidt.

"I'm using the opportunity of this first interview to wish the citizens of the federal republic health and well-being," he told West Germany's ZDF television.

Gorbachev, rated in opinion polls as the most popular politician in West Germany, stood stone-faced during the 21-gun salute at Cologne-Bonn airport while his wife Raisa grinned.

He then gave a warm smile to Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher and chatted briefly with Soviet embassy officials before leaving for Bonn in a procession of black Soviet Zil Limousines.

On Tuesday, Gorbachev and Kohl will sign a joint declaration on the future of their bilateral relations. Kohl's foreign policy adviser Horst Teltschik said it would be the first Moscow has signed with a Western country.

Peking imposes ban on student and worker groups

PEKING (Agencies) — China announced Monday a ban on all student and worker groups that spearheaded the pro-democracy movement, and demanded that their leaders surrender to authorities.

"All illegal organisations which incite or create social disturbances and counter-revolutionary rebellion are banned," the Ministry of Public Security announced in a notice read on Peking radio.

Peking and other cities previously have told independent student and worker unions to disband, but Monday's order was the first on a national scale.

China also stepped up its shrill propaganda attacks on dissident scientist Fang Lizhi, calling him a counter-revolutionary traitor who plotted the downfall of the communist state.

With Fang and his wife sheltering in the United States embassy in Peking, news that the authorities had ordered their arrest raised the prospect of a major diplomatic confrontation between China and the United States.

There was tension between the two countries on another front as official media strongly criticised President George Bush for his condemnation of the army's violent repression of the pro-democracy movement June 3 and 4, and the U.S. radio station Voice of America for alleged distorted reporting.

The radio's Peking bureau stands accused of exaggerating the death toll after the authorities sent in troops with tanks to clear Tiananmen Square of pro-democracy demonstrators. Diplomats and citizens have said hundreds,

perhaps thousands of people were killed in the operation.

The Bush administration indicated it would not permit Chinese authorities to arrest Fang and his wife, who have taken sanctuary in the U.S. embassy in Peking.

"When a person presents himself to one of our embassies and says he is in imminent danger and we have reason to give it credence sometimes we grant refuge," a U.S. official said.

The Bush administration, in dealing with the crackdown on dissidents and other pro-democracy forces, is trying not to inflame the situation by denouncing Chinese authorities.

But the statement by the U.S. official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, indicated that any attempt to arrest Fang and Li would be resisted.

Meanwhile, the British Foreign Office said Monday it had asked China's Foreign Ministry to look into the case of a Hong Kong student who was arrested in Shanghai as he was about to board a flight home to the British colony.

The student, Yao Yongzhang, 19, was in the company of several British students and British consulate officials when he was detained at the airport. Shanghai radio said he was the head of an independent Shanghai student group and was carrying unidentified "restricted articles."

British embassy spokesman Peter Davis said: "We did not know anything about him until he appeared yesterday morning saying he hadn't gotten enough money" for his plane ticket. Davis said the consulate advanced him funds and gave him a ride to the airport.

The Public Security Ministry said leaders of Peking's independent student and worker groups "must immediately surrender themselves to

public security organs in their localities if they wish to receive lenient treatment. Those who refuse to give themselves up... will be arrested, brought to justice and dealt with severely according to law."

It said similar organisations in other cities where riots and disturbances have occurred also should be broken up.

Police already have arrested one student leader in Peking and several in Shanghai, and have detained hundreds of people throughout the country for fomenting disturbances that broke out following the military crackdown on the student movement.

Known arrests number about 750 from Peking, Shanghai, Chengdu, Wuhan, Lanzhou and Guiyang. Most were young workers and unemployed youth. There have also been arrests in Xian, Canton, Changsha, Zhengzhou and other cities, but numbers have not been available.

China also called Monday for support for senior leader Deng Xiaoping and his harsh crackdown on dissent while the nation's official trade union urged workers to eradicate independent labour groups.

An extraordinary official statement released Monday night by the Australian embassy in Peking spoke of "a terror campaign."

Embassy First Secretary Gregson Edwards told reporters: "It is clear the government is attempting to introduce a phase of cold terror aimed at curbing the population. The embassy is talking about what it has seen."

Edwards said Australian diplomats had seen arrests at gunpoint, police beating people in the street, and police and troops mounding house to house, apartment to apartment searches.

Edwards, officially warned Australian and other foreign journalists and film crews working in China to be extremely cautious.

"The embassy believes journalists and crews who come under notice in the field are in very, very real danger," he added.

2 Israeli soldiers killed in S. Lebanon

TYRE (AP) — An Israeli jeep carrying four Israeli soldiers on patrol in South Lebanon overturned Monday near the U.N. peacekeepers' headquarters in Naqurah, killing one Israeli soldier and injuring another, police said.

They said the incident occurred at 10:00 a.m. (0700 GMT) approximately 100 metres from the headquarters of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL).

UNIFIL spokesman Timor Goksel said the two soldiers were taken to a Swedish-run UNIFIL hospital in the border town of Naqurah.

"One of the soldiers died immediately after arriving at the hospital," Goksel said. "The other was slightly wounded."

He said the other two soldiers were unhurt.

Israel kept a 10-to-16-kilometre self-declared "security zone" in South Lebanon. Th zone is patrolled by an estimated 1,000 Israeli soldiers and 3,000 militiamen of the Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army (SLA) militia.

In a separate incident, an Israeli soldier was killed Saturday by Israeli troops firing at random into bushes in the village of Rshaf inside the "security zone," police said Monday.

They said the Israeli was searching for guerrillas who fired four Katyusha rockets at an SLA post in Rshaf.

Soviets, U.S. sign military pact

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet Union and the United States, in a move marking a new era in their military establishments, Monday signed a pact aimed at preventing accidental conflict between them. The signing of the pact, officially titled "Agreement on the Prevention of Dangerous Military Activities," was hailed by Soviet Armed Forces Chief of Staff General Mikhail Moiseyev as "a momentous occasion in the history of our relations."

Admiral William Crowe, chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, said the agreement demonstrated "how far the courage of our political leaders has brought us towards developing a more sustainable larger relationship between our countries." The pact — partly aimed at preventing accidental border crossings by military aircraft into each other's territory from escalating into the use of force — was signed by Moiseyev and Crowe at a ceremony in the Soviet Defence Ministry. It was completed in nine months of negotiation in Washington and Moscow between teams of Soviet and U.S. general staff officers. Crowe said it was the first time military chiefs of the two powers had discussed such issues directly.

Nsour praises King's support for education

AMMAN (Petra) — Education Minister Ali Nsour has paid tribute to His Majesty King Hussein's continued care and backing for education in Jordan.

This support "strengthens the will of those working in the field of education, enables them to meet the aspiration of the glorious homeland, and ensures the creation of a generation that looks forward to restoring the leading role of the country," Nsour said in a message he sent to the King Monday, to respond to a message the King had sent him following a grand festival held on the occasion of Jordan's Independence Day anniversary.

"Your confidence provides me and my colleagues in the field of education with the motive to do our best and proceed firmly on the road of developing education," the minister said. "We are keen to have the educational march in our country move hand-in-hand with the revolution of knowledge, information, and technology."

Nsour pledged to follow the steps of the King and implement his directives.

Leaders call for heightened uprising

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Underground leaders of the uprising in the occupied territories called Monday for intensified attacks on Israeli security forces and settlers next week.

The leadership also said in a leaflet that the Israeli proposal for Palestinian elections in the occupied territories was a plot to crush the 18-month-old revolt against Israeli rule in which at least 515 Palestinians have died.

The leaflet declared June 18 and 19 days of escalated struggle in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Palestinians should use knives, cinderblocks and fire bombs against Israeli soldiers and Jewish settlers, it said.

"They (the Israelis) are going in a vicious circle," said the leaflet.

let, the 41st distributed by the unified national leadership. "Their oppressive methods failed to crush the intifada (uprising); will those measures manage to get us to accept the plan?"

The leaflet scheduled general strikes for June 17, 20 and 29 aimed at pressing Washington to accept an international Middle East peace conference, showing solidarity with workers in Gaza and protesting at settler raids on Arab villages.

The leaflet urged the United States to raise the level of its delegation engaged in dialogue with the PLO in Tunis, now headed by Ambassador to Tunisia Robert Pelletreau.

Any delay in doing so would be "fire on the flames of the intifada," the leaflet said.

Mubarak, Arafat laud U.S. approach

CAIRO (Agencies) — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat joined President Hosni Mubarak Monday in praising a new "seriousness" in the U.S. position on the Palestinians that could lead towards a peace settlement.

The two leaders also said they had questions about Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's plan for elections in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip but had not rejected the idea until replies are in.

"I want to say something about the American position on this subject," Mubarak said. "There is a very big development... and a very big improvement in the American position towards the Palestinian issue."

"There is a seriousness in the right direction to find a comprehensive solution to the

Palestinian issue. We have to encourage this direction."

Mubarak and Arafat, who flew in earlier Monday, spoke to reporters after a meeting and working lunch.

Both men referred to recent comments by U.S. President George Bush and by Secretary of State James Baker saying generally that Israel must end its occupation of Arab territories. Baker said the Zionist state must give up dreams of a "greater Israel."

"These are positive statements," said Arafat. Like Mubarak, he praised the Bush administration's "seriousness" in its attitude towards settling the Middle East conflict.

"We are positively at the American position as revealed in the latest statements by President George Bush and Secretary of State James Baker," Arafat said.

Israel spurns Egypt's mediation offer

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir rejected Monday an Egyptian offer to mediate between the Zionist state and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

Visiting Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Boutros Gbali made the offer at separate meetings with Shamir and some 30 leading Palestinians from the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Shamir's spokesman Avi Pazner quoted the hardline prime minister as saying: "Israel is not interested in negotiations with the PLO, but if Egypt is prepared to encourage local Palestinians to take part in the elections and the negotiating process, that would be extremely helpful."

The PLO-backed Unified Leadership of the Uprising the occupied territories Monday reaffirmed its rejection of Shamir's plan for elections to choose Palestinian delegates to negotiate interim self-rule with Israel.

"Shamir's plan will find itself in the dustbin of history," said the underground leaders said in their latest leaflet.

The statement urged Arab countries to pressure the United States to accept Palestinian "legitimate rights" as a first step towards peace.

The Egyptian offer came in a message to Shamir from Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak. It was delivered in a private meeting by Gbali.

"I'm ready to be a good and active postman," Gbali told about the 30 Palestinians at a breakfast meeting.

After 90 minutes of talks with Gbali, Arens responded that there was no need for a middle man and no desire for talks with the PLO.

"There is no need for mediation," he said. "I think the Egyptians understand that we are convinced... that the peace process needs to be advanced through direct negotiations and not through mediation."

Gbali said Cairo saw both positive and negative points in the Israeli plan for Palestinian elections.

"If we correct these negative points, we may see this plan as a start to a dialogue between the Palestinian people on the one side and the Israeli people on the other side, or between the PLO and the Israeli government," said Gbali, who asserted Egyptian support for the Palestinian uprising.

Washington last week rejected PLO demands that it recognise the Palestinian right to "self-determination" and statehood in exchange for Palestinian participation in the Israeli-proposed elections.

Khartoum, SPLA reach conditional conference accord

ADDIS ABABA (Agencies) — The Sudanese government and southern rebels agreed conditionally Monday on a constitutional conference in September to end their civil war.

In a joint statement, the two sides fixed Sept. 18 for the start of the conference but said it would have to be preceded by full implementation of a pending peace agreement.

That agreement was reached last November between the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) and the Democratic Unionist Party (DUP), a major player in Sudan's coalition government.

The pact caused a schism in the coalition and Prime Minister Sadeq al Mahdi was forced to reshuffle his government earlier this year under pressure from the army and professional groups.

Although Mahdi has signalled his acceptance of the November peace plan, Sudan's parliament still has not formally endorsed it.

The government and the SPLA said they would meet again in Ethiopia's capital July 4 to discuss ways to implement the November accord and pave the way for the September conference.

The joint statement was issued at the end of a two-day, closed-door meeting between the two sides, the first in the six-year history of their ruinous war.

No site was given for the constitutional conference, but the statement said all Sudanese political parties would be invited to

participate. It appeared doubtful, however, that the militant National Islamic Front (NIF) would agree to take part in such a conference because it is firmly opposed to a peace agreement with the SPLA.

Meanwhile Mahdi accused the SPLA of hindering peace talks by setting new conditions for a truce.

"There is no need to create new additions to what has already been agreed upon because this will complicate things," Monday's Khartoum newspapers quoted Mahdi as saying.

Information Minister Hussein Abu Saleh echoed the charge. He said the negotiations in Addis Ababa should focus on agreeing on a ceasefire and preparations for a constitutional conference to decide on Sudan's future.

Mahdi and Abu Saleh both objected to a demand by the SPLA for the Sudanese parliament to pass a resolution freezing implementation of Islamic Sharia punishment (hudud).

Hudud, which prescribes stoning for adultery, amputation of limbs for theft and flogging for drinking, was introduced in Sudan in 1983 but has been largely dormant since 1985.

"It is a condition that is not easy to meet," Abu Saleh said.

The rebels, who want Sudan to be governed by secular laws, have been fighting government forces in the south since 1983 to end what they see as domination of the south by the north.

The NIF, also a dominant partner in the former government, left Mahdi's coalition after he indicated acceptance of November's tentative peace accord.

One of the sticking points to formal endorsement of the peace proposal was provision in the agreement calling for abrogation of Sudan's Defence pacts with Egypt and Libya.

But Sunday, the government in Khartoum unexpectedly announced it had cancelled those pacts.

In their joint statement in Addis Ababa, the two sides "agreed that the steps taken by the governments of Sudan and Egypt to abrogate the joint defence pact by mutual consent are positive and what remains is its ratification by the constituent assembly."

But the government and rebel delegations expressed differing views on the Sudanese-Libyan defence protocol, with the insurgents questioning whether Sudan could end it unilaterally without Libya's consent.

Lam Akol, the SPLA's director of external affairs, noted that Libya had made no mention of the pact's abrogation and said "it is not clear if one side alone can cancel it."



Israeli soldiers guard a deserted street at the Khan Yunis refugee camp in the occupied Gaza Strip during general strike called by the underground leadership of the 19-month-old Palestinian uprising in the occupied territories.

Israel under mounting pressure to reopen West Bank schools

By Paul Taylor
Reuter

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM — Israel is under mounting world and domestic pressure to reopen schools in the occupied West Bank, closed almost continuously for the last 18 months due to the Palestinian uprising.

The prolonged ban, which extends even to kindergartens and teaching in private homes, has deprived more than 300,000 Arab children of education, leaving them to wander the streets as restless foot soldiers of the anti-Israeli revolt.

It now threatens to wipe out an entire academic year.

The United States, the European Community and Israel's own education minister have all urged the government publicly in the last two weeks to change its policy.

"With the continued closure of schools, they (the Israelis) are denying pupils their natural right," Palestinian daily newspaper Al Quds lamented Thursday.

"Hundreds of thousands of primary school pupils cannot even start the basics of reading, writing and arithmetic," it said.

The head of Israel's West Bank occupation administration, Brigadier-General Shaike Erez, has told Palestinian notables that he would allow schools to reopen if they guaranteed calm.

Erez's spokesman denied Palestinian charges that the closure was a collective punishment.

The schools had become focal points for violent demonstrations and many pupils had been injured after attacking troops or stoning Israeli cars, he said.

Palestinian leaders initially rejected the idea of policing the schools to prevent anti-Israeli protests. But some now say an offer of a "schools ceasefire" might demonstrate the Palestine Liberation Organisation's (PLO) power on the West Bank.

The occupation authorities have enforced the ban with a rigour that suggests more than maintaining order is at stake.

Critics say the closure of kindergartens served no security purpose.

Nor did the ban on the U.N. Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) handing out home education kits to West Bank primary school pupils in Palestinian refugee camps earlier this year.

Troops have also broken up "popular education" classes organised by Palestinian teachers, suspended on half pay, in private homes and empty schoolyards.

Students and teachers caught holding an illicit chemistry class in an Abu Dis technical college were arrested and jailed.

"They have effectively declared that education is illegal — any education, anywhere," said Albert Aghazarian, spokesman for the now-closed Bir Zeit University near Ramallah.

Paradoxically classes have remained open in the occupied Gaza Strip, apart from periods of prolonged curfew, although the unrest there has been more severe than in the West Bank.

Schools are also open in the Arab Jerusalem.

Leading Palestinian education officials met the defence ministry coordinator for the occupied territories last week to plead for schools to be reopened.

Mohammad Rashad Jashari, education chief in the town of Hebron, said Jordan was ready even at this late stage to allow 13,000 West Bank high school students in their final year to take the Tawjihi matriculation examination.

Al Quds said in its editorial that the academic year could still be saved if schools reopened immediately and worked overtime throughout the summer vacation.

Hamas' appeal

A Palestinian group has appealed to Arab leaders to do everything possible to support the 18-month-old Palestinian uprising.

The Islamic Resistance Movement known as Hamas made the appeal in a letter to the leaders released in Nicosia Monday.

"We appeal to you to use all the efforts you have and to employ all the resources God has given you to serve the interest of our cause, which is... the cause of the Arab and Muslim World," it said.

It said the revolt in the West Bank and Gaza would continue until Arab sovereignty was restored.

Hamas, which has mostly Islamic fundamentalist supporters in the occupied territories, follows a more hardline than the United National Leadership of the Uprising.

Rafsanjani reelected for one-year term

NICOSIA (AP) — Iranian Parliament Speaker Hashemi Rafsanjani, whose political position has strengthened after Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini's death, was reelected Monday for another one-year term, the Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) reported.

The agency, monitored in Nicosia, said that 230 out of 241 deputies attending a special session of the Majlis, the Iranian parliament, voted for Rafsanjani.

One deputy voted against and there were 10 abstentions, IRNA said.

Rafsanjani, 55, who also is acting armed forces commander-in-chief, has served as speaker for

the past five years. His armed forces position was reconfirmed last week by President Ali Khamenei who was selected to succeed Khomeini as Iran's leader by an assembly of experts.

Khomeini died June 3 of a heart attack suffered 11 days after he underwent surgery to stop intestinal bleeding.

Rafsanjani, a political ally of Khamenei, is the only declared candidate in presidential elections due to be held Aug. 18, under the constitution, Khamenei cannot run for a third four-year term.

Constitutional reforms expected to give the president in-



Hashemi Rafsanjani

creased executive power at the expense of the prime minister are being held on the same day as the presidential election.

The reforms are intended to end disputes between competing power centres in the hierarchy and speed up the decision-making process.

Mujahedeen reinforce, reopen camps near Iranian border

By Salah Nasrawi
The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Iranian opposition forces in Iraq have reopened camps close to the border with Iran in order to train thousands of new recruits, according to diplomats and eyewitnesses.

Western diplomats said volunteers have flocked to join the National Liberation Army (NLA) of Iran following the death June 3 of Iranian spiritual leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini.

The diplomats said Iranians exiled in Europe and the United States have been arriving in Iraq to join the NLA, the military wing of the Mujahedeen-e-Khalq, the main Iranian opposition group.

A Mujahedeen spokesman said that thousands of supporters and sympathisers who

signed up with the NLA were immediately dispatched to their bases along the Iran/Iraq border for training.

"A stream of our supporters has been pouring in and they are being given proper training in our bases here," said Farid Sulaimani, a spokesman for the Baghdad-based organisation.

He did not give any exact figure for the influx of new recruits.

Eyewitnesses said dozens of military vehicles carrying Mujahedeen fighters were seen Thursday and Friday near the northern city of Sulaimaniya, heading towards the border with Iran.

They said the vehicles, with markings in Farsi and Mujahedeen emblems, apparently were heading for NLA bases on the border which were shut down soon after a United Nations ceasefire halted the eight-year

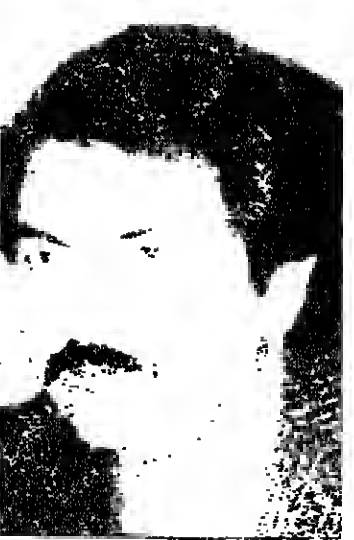
Gulf war on Aug. 20.

The diplomats, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said the bases were reopened immediately after Khomeini's death in an apparent show of strength by the Mujahedeen.

The Mujahedeen put the NLA, which has an estimated strength of up to 20,000 fighters, on alert after Khomeini underwent surgery May 23 to stop intestinal bleeding.

After the revolutionary patriarch's death the Mujahedeen leader, Massoud Rajavi, called on Iranians to be ready to welcome the NLA fighters and assist them when they move into Iran "at the appropriate moment."

Sulaimani said Khomeini's death had opened up a new situation in Iran which makes it necessary for the NLA and the Iranian opposition to remain vigilant and take immediate ac-



Massoud Rajavi

tion when required. But there has been no indication that the Mujahedeen are

planning any military action as Iran's new leadership under President Ali Khamenei seeks to consolidate its position.

Iraqi position

Any military move would need approval from the Iraqi government. But it is thought unlikely that Baghdad would permit any action that would jeopardise the 10-month-old ceasefire and impede progress in deadlocked peace talks now that Khomeini has gone.

Iraqi leaders have made no comment on the Mujahedeen statements but have reaffirmed their commitment to the ceasefire and called Iran to sign a peace treaty that will end the Gulf conflict.

One diplomat said although it was unlikely the NLA "would move across the border while the ceasefire is holding, they would most certainly build on

any serious violation of the truce" to attack Iranian positions or move inside Iraq to set up bases there.

"This depends on how the situation inside Iran will deteriorate and the holding of the ceasefire," he said.

Military and political analysts do not believe that the NLA is strong enough to topple the Iranian government on its own. But if a power struggle develops, the rebels may be able to tip the balance between the rival factions.

The NLA fought alongside the Iraqis in the war against Iran in the Gulf war. But their operations inside Iran were halted by the ceasefire.

Weeks before the ceasefire took effect, the NLA launched its biggest operation to west of Baghdad, reaching the city of Bakhtaran, 145 kilometres inside the country before with-

drawing.

The Mujahedeen claimed the thrust was a major victory, while Iran asserted the rebels were driven back with heavy losses. But the rebel raid so deepened Iran's alarm.

Mujahedeen officials have said the group's military strength has been increasing steadily since the ceasefire and that months of intensive training in Iraq have made it "a far more effective military force than before."

The Mujahedeen were allied with Khomeini in the struggle to topple the late Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi. But a year after they took power, the fundamentalist radicals turned on the Mujahedeen and other liberal and leftist factions in 1980-81, killing and imprisoning tens of thousands of people.

Qadhafi expects 'balanced' relations with U.S.

ROME (AP) — Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi Sunday praised the administration of U.S. President George Bush as "mature and wise" and said he expected "balanced relations" with both superpowers, the Libyan news agency JANA reported.

Qadhafi's comments appeared to be part of an effort in recent months to improve relations with the United States, which were sour under former President Ronald Reagan.

Qadhafi told a JANA reporter in Tripoli: "The Bush administration is a wise and mature administration and understands international politics and it is not possible that it will repeat the ignorance of Reagan and it is not possible that it will inflict new damages to American interests and foreign policy."

"But," he added, "we believe the new administration will make up for the damage caused to America during the Reagan era and that Arab-Jamaahiriya (Libya) will establish balanced relations with America and the Soviet Union."

Qadhafi said, according to the JANA dispatch, "most of the damage was done during the Reagan era."

Qadhafi told the Associated Press last September that he expected U.S. foreign policy to change from the strongly anti-Libya stance pursued under Reagan. The Libyan leader has also said Bush rejected the "irrationality" of the Reagan policy and would make amends for it.

Qadhafi called in a January interview for a dialogue with the United States, but Washington says Libya must first renounce "international terrorism."

In his remarks to JANA Sunday, Qadhafi also said that Libya "will invite American and Soviet companies to explore for oil and gas as there are massive quantities of these raw materials in Great Jamahiriya and perhaps these companies will even participate in water projects."

There have been reports in recent months that Libya is trying to induce Americans to return to its oil operations.

In his final weeks in office, Reagan authorised American oil companies to resume operations in the country through foreign subsidiaries. He had forbidden them from working there three years earlier under sanctions imposed on Libya.

Qadhafi spoke to JANA after a ceremony marking the 19th anniversary of the eviction of U.S. troops and bases from Libya.

Mandela award

The first Qadhafi international human rights prize has been awarded to Nelson Mandela, the jailed South African anti-apartheid leader, JANA reported Sunday.

The award was presented in Tripoli Saturday night to Mandela's daughter Zenani, JANA said.

Ms. Mandela was quoted as telling Libyan radio that the prize was "a further impetus for all freedom fighters."

Her father has been in jail for more than two decades for leading the fight against South Africa's racial segregation system.

The winner of the prize was chosen by an "international people's committee," JANA said.

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 77111-19

PROGRAMME ONE

15:30 Koran
15:40 Programme review
15:45 Children programmes
17:00 Educational programme
17:30 Religious programme
18:00 News summary in Arabic
18:05 Programme on world news
19:10 Agricultural programme
19:45 Programme review
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Arabic series
21:30 Programme review
21:40 Hit Squad
23:00 Arabic film
23:00 News summary in Arabic

PROGRAMME TWO

18:00 A French documentary
19:00 News in French
19:15 Documentary
19:30 News in Hebrew
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Hit Squad
21:10 Forever Green
22:00 News in English
22:20 Hit Squad

PRAYER TIMES

03:50 Fajr
05:25 (Sunrise) Dhuha
12:36 Dhahir
16:16 'Asr
19:46 Maghreb
21:21 Isha

CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church, Sweifeth Tel. 810741

Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 63785

St. Joseph Church Tel. 624594

Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637480

De la Salle Church Tel. 661757

Torrensia Church Tel. 622366

Church of the Annunciation Tel. 625541

Anglican Church Tel. 625393, Tel. 625543

Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331

Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 77561

St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751

Assiout International Church Tel. 683326

Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 811295

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 815817, 821264

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

Another rise in temperatures is expected and winds will be northwesterly moderate. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

Amman Min./max. temp. 15 / 29

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

Aqaba 22 / 35

Deirats 14 / 32

Jordan Valley 21 / 35

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 26, Aqaba 35. Humidity readings: Amman 33 per cent, Aqaba 33 per cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:

Or. Salah Al Joudi 649028

Dr. Ramzi Al Mizawi 894788

Dr. Abbas Al Hakim 791256

Dr. Walid Al Samdi 683266

Firas pharmacy 661912

Al Asana pharmacy 778336

Al Asana pharmacy 637055

Nahrain pharmacy 625972

* Salam pharmacy 636730

* pharmacy 644945

Shamsan pharmacy 637660

IRBID:

Or. Ali Al 'Omari (—)

Al Shara'a pharmacy (985238)

ZARQA:

Dr. Ziad Hawatmeh 993267

Khalifeh pharmacy 985417

EMERGENCIES

Civil Defence Department 661111

Civil Defence Emergency 630341

Rescue Police 192, 621111, 637777

Fire Brigade 891228

Blood Bank 775121

Highway Police 843402

Traffic Police 896390

Public Security Department 630331

Hotel Complaints 695800

Price Complaints 661176

Water and Sewerage 897467

Amman Municipality 787111

Complaints (directory assistance) 121

Overseas Calls 010230

Central Amman Telephone 623101

Repairs 661101

Abdali Telephone Repairs 771111

Jordan Television 774111

* after Authority 680100

Jordan Electricity Authority 815615

Electric Power 636381

Company 06-53200

RJ Flight Information 06-53200

Queen Alia Intl. Airport 06-53200

HOSPITALS

AMMAN:

Hussein Medical Centre 813813/2

Khalifeh Maternity, J. Amn. 642816

Al-Khalifeh Maternity, J. Amn. 64241/2

Jabal Amman Maternity 642362

Mulhas, J. Amman 636140

Palestine, Shamsani 664171/4

Shamsani Hospital 669313

Al-Mushter Hospital 667279

The Islamic, Abdali 666170/7

Al-Ahli, Abdali 664164/6

Italian, Al-Muhajreen 77101/3

Al-Badur, J. Amn. 775112/6

Army, Marka 891611/15

Queen Alia Hospital 602240/50

Amal Hospital 674155

ZARQA:

Zarqa Govt. Hospital (09)983323

Zarqa National Hospital (09)910771

Ibn Sina Hospital (09)986732

IRBID:

Princess Basma Hospital (02)755555

Greek Catholic Hospital (02)727275

Ibn Al Nafes Hospital (02)247100

AQABA:

Princess Haya Hospital (03)314111

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (06)53300-5, where it should always be verified.

New philosophy behind RJ corporate restructuring

AMMAN (J.T.) — Ali Ghandour, Royal Jordanian's chairman of the board and chief executive, has, in a recent memo to Royal Jordanian (RJ) staff throughout the world, expounded the new philosophy that will guide the airline into the immediate future and outlined the concomitant policy of operation.

Ghandour explained that RJ, true to its perennial objectives to provide superlative service to the international traveller across its worldwide network of air services and to fulfil its mission at home to contribute to the on-going development of Jordan in various fields of endeavour, notably economically and culturally, enjoys resilience to introduce organisational changes that bring in their wake added satisfaction to all those directly concerned — its customers, employees, and financiers who have a vested interest in a continuing sound civil aviation environment.

Ghandour further explained that inasmuch as Royal Jordanian, which has become a world-class carrier, operates in an increasingly competitive environment, has to re-organise its corporate functions in pursuit of higher productivity and increased efficiency.

Consequently, delegation of functions as well as authority and staff involvement are central to the new direction.

RJ's Board of Directors has, as has always been the case, the general control of the organisation. However, a supervisory board consisting of the Chairman and Presidents, two elected board members and the deputy president, is being realised and with whom the president of the corporation consults closely towards the development of long-term policy and planning.

At the same time, an Executive Management Committee consisting of some key departments in RJ, has been established to provide close consultation to the deputy president to whom the chairman and president has delegated the responsibility of the short-term developments of the corporation and the day-to-day operation.

Ghandour has announced forthwith the appointment of Husam Abo Ghazaleh, until recently vice-president engineering and maintenance, to the position of deputy president.

Al Hussein: Jordan to continue working for Arab solidarity

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein said Monday that Jordan is determined to go ahead with plans to consolidate solidarity among Arab states and strengthen the Armed Forces to defend the Arab Nation, despite the present economic difficulties it is now facing.

"Dwindling Arab financial assistance to Jordan and current economic stagnation in the Arab region will not deter Jordan from shouldering its responsibilities along the longest confrontation line with the Israeli enemy," the King said in an address to a group of youths representing the Arab Youth Forum.

He said Jordan relies on its people in general and its youth in particular to overcome the present difficulties and hardships and go ahead with plans for construction.

Urging the Jordanian youth to take the initiative in voluntary and constructive work, the King said that his letter of designation to the prime minister called on the new government to give due care to the youth sector, enabling them to contribute meaningfully towards building their country, providing help to their community and participating in the construction of model villages as part of their

voluntary service to their nation.

The King called for seminars to be held in various areas of Jordan designed to promote dialogue between the youths and the government.

In his address at the Royal Court in the presence of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, King Hussein urged the youth to exert extra efforts towards protecting the environment in Jordan and to contribute to the implementation of programmes for stemming pollution.

King Hussein referred to the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC), which was created by Jordan, Egypt, Iraq and North Yemen last February, and said that it was a positive national step to serve the Arab Nation and attain its aspiration.

King Hussein promised to maintain Jordan's full support for the Palestine Liberation Organisation and the struggle of the Palestinian people to regain their rights and homeland.

Prince Hassan said at the outset of the meeting that the Arab Youth Forum was created by the Jordanian chapter of Forum Humanum.

The Arab Youth Forum, he said, is a non-governmental institution that caters to the needs of the youth and helps to achieve their aspirations.

Shomari to serve as home for ostriches

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Shomari Wildlife Reserve, east of Amman will soon serve as home for ostriches in addition to other animals and birds threatened with extinction, according to Maher Abu Jaafar, director of the Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature (RSCN).

The society is in charge of nature's protection in Jordan, and is running several reserves in the country as a natural habitat for the endangered species.

Abu Jaafar said that the nine ostriches will come as a gift to the Shomari reserve from Saudi Arabia which also maintains a number of reserves to protect animals and birds.

Abu Jaafar made the statement upon his return to Amman from Saudi Arabia where he was on a week-long visit in talks with officials in charge of protecting wildlife and touring wildlife reserves.

Discussions centered on prospects of exchanging expertise in ways of providing protection to wildlife, Abu Jaafar said in a statement. Adding that he examined the most up to date methods for providing protection to animals and birds in the Saudi Arabian reserves.

The society's president Anis Muehsen announced in April that a number of world organisations concerned with the conservation of nature were contemplating the idea of transforming the Shomari Wildlife Reserve in Jordan into a centre for conducting scientific research for producing improved breeds of animals and birds threatened with extinction, and to supply such animals to Arab countries in the region.

RSCN is in charge of seven reserves: Shomari, Azraq, Mujib, Zobia, Dana and Rum where it provides protection measures for the various types of animals, plants and birds.

The paper quoted drug-store owners as saying that the last time price hikes were made they were based on the U.S. dollar which was worth 470 fils and noted that the transportation and freight cost has increased since then.

The minister said that medicine produced in Jordan will not be affected by new arrangements.

Austria to buy Jordanian agricultural products

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — Prospects for exporting Jordanian agricultural products to Austria were examined Monday by Minister of Agriculture Adnan Badran and the commercial attaché at the Austrian embassy in Amman.

The two sides discussed Jordan's agricultural production. The Austrian envoy handed the minister a list of agricultural products in need by his country at acceptable prices.

The Ministry of Agriculture

will now circulate the list of exporters of Jordanian products, and a number of concerned institutions.

Jordan already exports crops to European Common Market countries and the Arab states of the Gulf region.

Also Monday, Badran met with Algerian Ambassador to Jordan Mohammad Bergham. They discussed Algeria's experiment in greening the desert and the prospect of benefiting from this experiment in Jordan.

Training course opens on informational statistics

AMMAN (Petra) — A four-day training course on cultural and informational statistics organised by the Ministry of Culture in cooperation with the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) was opened here Monday by Minister of Culture and Information Nasouh Al Majali.

The 26 participants, all from the Ministry of Culture and Information's various departments will hear lectures on information-gathering — especially on topics concerning culture and media in general — information analysis

and processing. Majali delivered an address at the opening session underlining the importance of statistics in culture and information-gathering and data.

Such an important task, he said, is of paramount benefit for the media, radio and television, publishing houses, movie houses, museums and other centres of culture.

Dr. Hamed Al Khawwad, UNESCO's regional director in Amman, outlined in a brief speech his office's activities and its plans between from 1990 to 1995.

NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

SHARIF ZAID RECEIVES ENVOY: Prime Minister Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker Monday received Jordan's Ambassador to Syria Nayef Al Hadid (Petra).

BALQA MARKS ARMY DAY: On the occasion of the Great Arab Revolt and Army Day, the Balqa Governorate has held a cultural festival at the Salt Cultural Centre in cooperation with the Ministry of Culture and Information. The Balqa governor delivered a speech paying tribute to His Majesty King Hussein's nationalist positions and reviewing the significance of these two anniversaries. The Salt mayor also delivered a speech expressing the importance of these two anniversaries. During the festival, local troupes presented national dances and songs. Celebrations marking the two anniversaries will be held in Tafleeh Governorate on June 21 (Petra).

NASSER IN SWEDEN: President of Bir Zeit University and member of the Palestine National Council (PNC) Hanna Nasser, left for Sweden yesterday upon an invitation by the Swedish government. During his visit to Sweden, Nasser will meet with personnel from various Swedish universities, and with the Minister of Foreign Affairs Sten Andersson (J.T.).

IMPROVING SERVICES IN MA'AN: The Ma'an governor and directors of departments in the governorate held a meeting Monday and reviewed issues related to improving services given to citizens, as well as coordination among the various departments in this regard. The governor called for confirming the principles of collective work so as to improve services and entrench competitive administration (Petra).

TEACHERS GRADUATE IN KARAK: A total of 270 people will attend the Teachers Rehabilitation College in Karak Saturday. This will be the first batch of students enrolled in the college which has been established recently within the framework of the plan to raise the standard of education in Jordan (Petra).

INFORMATICS SYSTEMS: Experts and specialists in the field of authentication and information from Arab and European countries will participate Saturday in a regional seminar on the national policies of informatics systems and their services in the Arab World. The three-day seminar will review the achievements attained in the field of informatics so as to prepare an Arab policy in the systems covering all spheres (Petra).

WOMAN ELECTROCUTED: A 24-year-old lady identified as Najah Aziz has died of an electric shock while operating an electric washing machine, according to Al Dustour Arabic daily (J.T.).

TCC DISCONNECTS PHONE LINES: The Telecommunications Corporation (TCC) has disconnected 15,586 telephones within the Amman region alone due to subscribers' failure to pay their dues for calls they made in the first three months of 1989 and before. Suleiman Hafez, TCC's assistant director, said that subscribers who have unsettled bills as far back as 1987 also had their telephone lines disconnected until they pay their dues. According to Hafez, the total amounts required from these subscribers is nearly JD 1.551 million. A fine of JD 5 will have to be paid for reconnecting the lines in 12 hours after payment is done, Hafez added. He said that in the coming month the same measure will be applied to subscribers in the various provinces (Petra).

SOAP BOX DERBY: To enter, all you have to do is invent your own vehicle or "soap box." What of? Be creative! As long as it has four wheels, there are no objections. And you have plenty of time to come up with an outstanding idea — until Sept. 8. This event, originally taken from American tradition, was started in Jordan two years ago and has found great success in entries and attendance. Cosponsoring the event are the Amman Marriott Hotel, the Royal Automobile Club and British Airways, all of whom will provide wonderful prizes for the Derby champions.

Jordan, Syria to discuss implementation of 1974 tourism agreement

DAMASCUS (J.T.) — Syria and Jordan will open two days of talks in Amman on Saturday to pave the way for the conclusion of an executive programme for the implementation of a 1974 tourism agreement between them.

Syrian Deputy Minister of Tourism Isam Amiri said that he will head the Syrian side to the talks which he hoped will culminate with the conclusion of the executive programme to help boost the tourist industry in both countries.

The programme would entail providing incentives for businessmen to set up joint tourist projects, to study the prospect of establishing an investment company for tourism, and to exchange ideas for recreational facilities. Amiri noted in a statement

to the Jordan News Agency, Petra here.

Also according to Amiri, the pact will offer facilities for travellers between the two countries and would remove customs, financial and administrative obstacles that had been impeding tourist flow in either direction.

The new programme, he said, would provide incentives for tourists groups from Syria and Jordan to visit either country and would pave the way for tour operators from the two neighbours to cooperate in marketing

tourist sites in Jordan and Syria. In addition, the programme would open the way for an exchange of information and expertise in planning, statistics, and other data needed for the tourism industry such as hotel management and training, Amiri said.

Last April, a team from Royal Jordanian (RJ) the national carrier, visited Damascus and discussed unification of regulations and airline transport systems in Jordan and Syria and ways of marketing tourist sites in the two countries through the services of the two countries' respective national airlines.

In his talks with Jordanian officials here Saturday, Amiri will be accompanied by Salah Kharbati and Usama Hanania from the Syrian Ministry of Tourism who will arrive in Amman Thursday.



Princess Sarvath attends graduation

AMMAN (Petra) — Her Royal Highness Princess Sarvath Monday attended a ceremony for the graduation of the eighth batch of students from the Princess Sarvath College in Amman and distributed diplomas to the 71 graduates. The graduates have completed courses in Kindergarten and nursery teaching, English language and primary education teaching. The princess heard a speech by the college principal who outlined the various programmes and

expressed appreciation to the United Nations, the West German government, the Canadian Agency for International Development, as well as the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) for their assistance and the provision of equipment to help in the process of training. Minister of Higher Education Nassereddin Al Assad and a number of officials and relatives of the graduates were present at the ceremony.

ILO meeting discusses violations of Palestinian labourers' rights

AMMAN (J.T.) — The international labour conference, which is underway in Geneva, is currently discussing a draft resolution submitted by the Arab delegates dealing with human rights and labourers' freedom in the occupied Arab territories, according to Minister of Labour Jamal Bdour.

The draft resolution reminds the International Labour Organisation (ILO) of its own resolution of 1890 about Israel's violations of labourers' rights and human rights violations in the Israeli-held Arab lands, as well as the negative effects of Jewish settlements on the condition of Arab workers under Israeli rule, the minister said in a statement upon returning home from the ILO meeting in Geneva.

The new resolution, he said, condemns Israel's actions and repressive measures against the Arab workers and labour unions, as well as Israel's continued demolition of Arab homes, its arbitrary measures against Arab workers and other measures to destroy the Arab territory's economic infrastructure.

The resolution also calls on the conference to set up a special commission to further investigate the situation in the Arab lands under Israeli rule so that a full report on the situation can be discussed by the ILO's next conference, according to the minister.

He said economic recovery, employment and minority rights were among the principal topics

discussed by the delegates from 150 member nations.

The ILO is the United Nations specialised agency that deals with protection and promotion of international social, human and labour rights. It has a tripartite structure, unique among United Nations bodies in that workers and employers, as well as governments help to formulate policy.

Some 2,000 government workers and employer delegates took part in this year's conference

which featured ways to create more jobs, speed economic growth and speed up the pace of social progress, the minister noted.

He said means of protecting the environment from pollution and serving countries from dangerous chemicals, as well as the huge Third World debts to the advanced nations and the need for the industrialised powers to help the poorer countries were also discussed at the meeting which will continue until June 28.

Qatanani briefs PWF

AMMAN (J.T.) — A 27-member group representing the Pax World Foundation (PWF) in the United States had a meeting here Monday with Dr. Ahmad Qatanani, director general of the Foreign Ministry's Department of Palestinian Affairs who discussed the Palestine question and the situation in the Israeli-held Arab lands.

The group, which arrived here on Sunday on a two-day visit to Jordan before leaving for the West Bank on Wednesday, is due to tour Baqaa refugee camp near Amman to familiarise itself with the refugee conditions.

Qatanani outlined to the group his department's services to the Palestinians in Jordan in cooperation with the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) and facilities by the Jordanian government to the Palestinians of the occupied territories in general.

Qatanani spoke about Israel's human rights violations in the areas occupied since 1967, and the inhuman treatment of Palestinians under occupation.

The PWF is a charitable organisation working for peace around the world and the group is here on a fact-finding tour, according to Mr. Kjell Jonasson, liaison officer of the Middle East Council of Churches (MECC) office in Amman.

Jonasson said that his office is providing facilities to the visitors to have meetings with officials and representatives of the Palestinians in Jordan and the West Bank.

Jonasson told the Jordan Times that the group, comprising mostly of university and college clergymen in the United States, has met with Palestine National Council (PNC) representatives.



WHAT'S ON JTV: Episode five of JTV's ongoing series "Forever Green", reaches a point where the Boul family is struck with headaches and ulcers; only Freddy seems to be immune. Bat Lady Pat finds a more sinister force behind their maladies. The photo shows Pauline Collins as Harriet Boul, Daisy Bates as Freddy and Nimer

Rashed as Tom, in a scene from Forever Green, on Tuesday at 9:10. Later in the week, "Beauty and the Beast" reaches a point where Katherine, bereaved by the death of her father, decides to abandon life on the surface... to live in the underworld, Vincent's World, on Thursday at 9:10.

Ministry plans to revise prices of imported drugs

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Ministry of Health and private drug store proprietors are currently revising the prices of imported medicine in view of the new Jordanian dinar exchange rate against the other currencies, Minister of Health Zuhair Malhas said in a statement to Al Dustour daily.

The ministry is keen to consult with the concerned parties before taking any decision and is also careful not to decide on any new big rise in the prices of imported drugs, Malhas said.

"Should it be decided that the prices must be raised," he said "there can be no hike above the 10 per cent level under any circumstances."

The minister said that medicine produced in Jordan will not be affected by new arrangements.

and noted that Jordanian medicine accounts for 40 per cent of the total needs of Jordanian residents.

According to Al Dustour, the owners of pharmacies and drug stores in Jordan were expected to hold a meeting Monday evening to discuss the situation and that a technical committee charged with importing drugs for the Health Ministry will hold an emergency meeting Tuesday to examine the situation in the light of the arrangements with the drug-store owners.

The paper quoted drug-store owners as saying that the last time price hikes were made they were based on the U.S. dollar which was worth 470 fils and noted that the transportation and freight cost has increased since then.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

- ★ An art exhibition by three North African artists at Abdal Haimid Shomari Foundation.
- ★ An art exhibition by Ahmad Abu Othman at the Housing Bank Gallery.
- ★ An art exhibition by Jordanian and Arab artists at Al Wasiti Art Gallery.
- ★ An art exhibition entitled "Tents and Stones" by Samia Al Zura at Alia Art Gallery (Flying Carpet).
- ★ An art exhibition entitled "Study in Line and Colour" by Dodi Tabaa at the Petra Bank Art Gallery.
- ★ A photography exhibition on Jordan by Francis Chaverou at the French Cultural Centre.
- ★ A photo exhibition on Bertolt Brecht's life and famous theatre performances at the Goethe Institute.
- ★ An exhibition entitled "Spotlight Germany" displaying works by eleven German photographers at the Yarmouk University.
- ★ An exhibition of contemporary Japanese posters at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- ★ An exhibition of photographers on Arabic and oriental architecture by Radolph Hammadi at the French Cultural Centre.
- ★ An exhibition of children's paintings, educational facilities, ceramics and silkwork at Al Hareth Model Kindergarten.
- ★ An exhibition of military drawings and photographs at the Yarmouk University.

FILMS

- ★ A video on Roy Orbison and Friends (black and white) at the American Centre — 7:00 p.m.
- ★ A video entitled "Forest and Forestry in Jordan" (in Arabic) at the Goethe Institute — 7:00 p.m.

CONCERT

- ★ A concert by a refugee choir in front of the Alia Art Gallery (Flying Carpet) — 6:00 p.m.



Dr. Daoud Jabaji

Jabaji promoted

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, president of the Higher Council for Science and Technology, has approved the promotion of Dr. Daoud Jabaji to the post of advisor to the president of the Royal Scientific Society (RSS) effective June 5, 1989.

Jabaji held the post of director of the Building Research Centre at RSS from 1984 to 1989 as well as the post of head of the Building Technology Division from 1978 to 1984.

He worked as assistant professor at the Faculty of Engineering and Technology at the University of Jordan from 1976 to 1978. He also worked as consultant engineer in the private sector from 1974 to 1976.

Jabaji obtained his doctorate in structural engineering from the University of Dundee in United Kingdom in 1974.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English for the Jordan Press Foundation
Established 1975

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Jordan Times Advertising Department.

Iran's 'secret weapon'

THANKS appear to be due to the Iranians for indicating to the world that they have somehow developed a technique to protect targets dozens of kilometres away by two regiments of soldiers, and have put it into use to protect their embassy in Beirut. It is indeed gratifying to the people of the Middle East to know some of their brethren in the region have acquired advanced technology far ahead of the superpowers. We hope that Tehran will live up to traditional Persian magnanimity and be gracious enough to share with us their latest achievement as reflected in the grounds offered by "Sarhanki," presumably an Iranian official, to justify the Iranian military presence in Bekaa Valley.

For starters, we would like to know what kind of a protective shield does a 3,500-strong Iranian contingent based in Lebanon's Bekaa Valley offer in the Iranian embassy situated some 65 kilometres away in the Bir Hassan area of west Beirut. Perhaps something like the "star wars" missile shield technology which the Americans are striving to achieve at great cost?

Who authorised the Iranian military presence in Lebanon? This is another question we would like to pose to "Sarhanki," who was also quoted by Beirut's Al Nahar daily as saying that the Iranian contingent in Bekaa would not be pulled back because it was the Iranian vanguard for confronting Israel.

In exchange for the answers to these questions, we can enlighten Tehran on several points on which we do not need any clarifications; assuming, of course, any Iranian leader is unaware of what the Revolutionary Guards are doing in Lebanon.

The Iranian force in Lebanon cannot but be contributing to the cycles of violence and tension in the strife-torn country.

The purpose of keeping and reinforcing the contingent is nothing but to flex Iranian muscles in support of the Iranian protegee — Hizbollah — in Lebanon and to move in and offer protection as and when Hizbollah declares its own "Islamic revolutionary" state in Lebanese territory.

The presence of the force also implies that Iran might be expecting a rescue assault on Hizbollah bases, and indeed the Iranian embassy, where at least some of the Western hostages are reportedly held (perhaps some of the Iranian strategists see too many American movies; "Delta Force" may be?).

While we wait in hope for Tehran to send us a blueprint of its secret weapon, we would also like to throw in a piece of advice to the Iranians: apply for a patent right and don't let the Israelis catch onto your secret technology; you might simply lose it.



JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

AI Ra'i commented on the election plan proposed by Israeli Prime Minister Shamir for the occupied Arab territories. The paper said that the apparent aim of the election plan was to serve as a tool to end the 18-month-old intifada. Shamir wants a new Palestinian leadership to emerge from these elections to replace the PLO, and the new representatives may accept Israel's terms for a settlement, according to the paper. Shamir is "going ahead" with his plan despite strong objections from Likud extremists and the PLO. The PLO has said it will not agree to elections if the Israeli occupation forces will oversee the elections but it has indicated, however, that it would accept a U.N. observer force, the paper said. It noted that the Shamir plan was also opposed by Egypt whose minister of state is now visiting Israel and whose talks have had no apparent positive results. The paper said that despite the "superficial differences" between the two opposition parties in Israel, they have the same goals: to crush the intifada and not to talk to the PLO. These two goals are unacceptable to the Arabs and Palestinians alike, the paper said.

The increase of Palestinian resistance activity has apparently contributed to the resignation of Israel's military governor of the central region in the occupied West Bank, says Mahmud Khatami in his Monday column in AI Ra'i. According to the writer, the brilliant military governor who has had a very successful career, resigned from his post to pursue studies. The resignation of such a respected and successful military figure at this stage of the intifada indicates that frustration is high among Israel's military personnel and that the intifada is indeed, as Shamir has admitted, Israel's toughest confrontation today.

AI Dastour daily commented on the inhuman treatment meted out by the Israeli authorities to the Arab population in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. The paper said that the Gaza Strip had been exposed to countless curfews, which have not been able to break the spirit of resistance. Yitzhak Rabin, the Israeli defence minister, has admitted that military force had not been able to crush the intifada, it noted.

By Daoud Kuttab

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM — The cycle of violence between Israelis and Palestinians sharpened during the time the Israeli government was approving the political initiative that carries the names of Shamir and Rabin.

In public statements the prime minister and the defence minister made no apologies for the escalation of repression in the occupied territories. "I feel much better about these decisions now that we have a peace plan," said Rabin in an interview with the *Jerusalem Post*. It is a classic carrot and stick operation with the Israelis wielding a heavier stick while dangling the carrot of the elections.

The Gaza Strip has been the hardest hit area. More than 60,000 Gazans working in Israel were ordered back to the Strip for an indefinite period and the entire area was placed under curfew for six consecutive days. Most refugee camps in Gaza have been under curfew since the Eid al-Fitr when large demonstrations broke out. Because of its geography the Israelis can control the Strip

simply by closing its two main entrances. With the sea to the west and the Egyptian border to the south, it is easily besieged.

The curfew basically gave soldiers a license to shoot anyone who stepped out of doors. There were daily casualties in Gaza despite the curfew, an indication that there was a clear attempt to defy it.

In the West Bank, the Israeli army once again changed its policy of staying away from remote villages and started a planned operation aimed at "reoccupying" many of the "liberated" West Bank villages. The army came up against resistance and naturally there were many casualties. Tens of Palestinian homes were demolished in this period.

Problems between Palestinians and settlers increased sharply in the Hebron area where more than 5,000 settlers live in the Kiryat Arba settlement and where some of the more militant drive through the centre of the city in a provocative way. Settlers have attacked Muslim worshippers, torn down walls, uprooted trees and broken the windshields

of many Palestinian cars.

Worse is to come

On the official level, calls for a hardening of the iron fist policy have been coming from Israeli cabinet ministers. Moshe Katsav, the minister of labour and social affairs, has called on the Israeli government to close off the entire West Bank from Israel for a period of three months as a means of punishing the population. It is expected the measures taken against Gazans will be carried out in the West Bank within the next three months. Rabin has said that movement from the territories to Israel will be more strictly regulated from now on. And the Israeli army's chief of staff is demanding new legislation that will allow the army to deport anyone perpetrating a violent act against Israelis without waiting for any legal procedures.

Palestinians have responded by escalating the uprising. For only the second time since the beginning of the intifada Palestinians used live ammunition in a shoot-out with an army patrol near Hebron on 18 May. While the



PLO and Palestinian activists insist that the policy of refraining from the use of firearms has not changed, many expect that it will be more and more difficult to enforce this policy. It will also be difficult for Palestinian activists in the occupied territories to carry

out the latest demand by the Unified Command of the uprising to kill an Israeli soldier or settler for every Palestinian that is killed, without the use of firearms.

The reaction of the people of Gaza and a reading of the latest

communique of the intifada leadership shows a clear willingness on the part of Palestinians to face up to the Israeli challenge without backing away. If both sides insist on escalation, there will be another hot summer in Palestine. — MEI

Deng's hardline speech unlikely to solve crisis

By Guy Dinmore
Reuter

PEKING — China's embattled leadership put on a display of hardline unity with senior leader Deng Xiaoping back at the helm but foreign diplomats doubted the show of strength was a long-term solution to China's crisis.

Deng, 84, appeared on state television to confound rumours he was dead or close to death and praised troops for putting down what he called a "counter-revolutionary rebellion."

Deng was flanked by Premier Li Peng and President Yang Shangkun, both outspoken advocates of using troops to end the biggest anti-government protests since the 1949 revolution which brought the current generation of

leaders to power. Diplomats, basing their estimates on many eyewitness accounts, believe the military slaughtered thousands when they moved in early on Sunday June 4, to end the pro-democracy occupation of Tiananmen square. The authorities say fewer than 300 died.

Notably absent from the line-up of leaders and generals was Communist Party General Secretary Zhao Ziyang, a golf-playing reformist who has clearly been ousted.

"The average age of these people is 60 or so — leaving out Premier Li Peng. If Deng is still the central authority, what will happen when he dies? Will the ghost of Deng sit at the head of the table," commented an Asian

diplomat.

"They are reverting back to the 50s," he said, referring to arrests of students and workers and official warnings that troops were ready to put down protests in other parts of China.

"But the problem is the people have changed," he added. A western commented: "They're trying to say here we are still in charge ... you can have your open-door policy but not open-mouths."

Deng said the party's policies were correct though mistakes had to be rectified — apparently a reference to Zhao.

"I see China going straight back to the 1950s with the repression after the '100 flowers' campaign ... history is repeating itself because basically the same people

are still running China now as then," the Western diplomat added.

Chairman Mao Tseung encouraged intellectuals to voice their criticisms in the mid-1950s with the slogan "let a hundred schools of thought contend and 100 flowers bloom."

That brief period of liberalisation was followed in 1957 by a mass purge of intellectuals, some of whom were to be silenced for 20 years.

Deng looked distinctly unwell and shaky on television, his voice slurred and at times incomprehensible. His tough-sounding speech was read out in part by a television commentator.

"There is obviously a succession crisis," the Western diplomat said.

"The same people have been struggling for power since Yanan," he added, referring to the late 1930s and 1940s when Mao's Red Army was holed up in Northern China fighting Japanese invaders and forming the factions which would later struggle for power.

Diplomats said Deng had cobbled together a fragile unity in the face of threats on the party's very existence but this could fall apart again.

Before the student unrest began eight weeks ago, Deng had been widely expected to step down later this year from his last remaining posts as chairman of the party and state central military commissions.

His historic summit meeting with Soviet Leader Mikhail Gor-

bachev was to have capped a long career in which he twice survived political exile.

"The awful irony is that he wished to retire after the summit. Now he can't," the Western diplomat said.

Almost all the leaders lined up for a rare group photograph were wearing Mao-suits — seen by diplomats as a sign of tougher times to come.

Even though students and workers have been suppressed in Peking there are still large-scale demonstrations outside the capital.

In Shanghai, around 40,000 people demonstrated in the city centre June 9, calling for democratic reforms and protesting at the Peking killings.

Polish hardliners say reformers betrayed Communist Party

By Andrew Tarnowski
Reuter

WARSAW — Hardliners in the Polish Communist Party, fearful of losing their 40-year hold on power, are accusing reformers of selling out the party by leading it into last Sunday's humiliating election defeat by Solidarity.

"We can hear these hardline voices hourly since the election," said a reformer.

"They are using words like capitulation and throwing away Socialism, liquidation of Socialism and throwing away the leading role of the party."

The reformers say the extent of the onslaught is not yet clear but Polish leader general Wojciech Jaruzelski's line of Democratic reform and reconciliation with

the opposition could become endangered.

The election disaster has highlighted diametrically-opposed tendencies in the party, with reformers and hardliners offering contradictory views on how it will affect the future both of the party and of Polish Socialism.

Reformers forcefully argue that the party must speed up Poland's progress towards Democracy, break with the vestiges of Stalinism and transform itself into

a vote-winning force, if it is to survive in an era of inevitable transition.

"We must go forward if we are to avoid the Chinese situation," one party source said, referring to last weekend's repression of pro-democracy students in Communist China.

"China's tragedy was born from their readiness to reform the economy but not politics, and this tells us something."

Some influential Polish Com-

munist reformers concluded from the elections that the party, with its insurmountable Stalinist heritage, was itself a hopeless electoral liability.

They have floated the idea of founding a new left party of social democrats, left-liberals and former Communist "revisionists" to take up the banner of Socialism.

Communist hardliners, by contrast, are dismayed by the prospect of losing the comfortable grip they have had on the country

for more than 40 years. They are loudly questioning the entire reformist line.

The poll results were a resounding slap in the face for the party in the first partly-free parliamentary elections it has allowed in Poland since 1947.

Communist and their allies won five of the 299 seats they contested in Sunday's first round. No party leader was elected.

The opposition solidarity movement, legalised by

Jaruzelski seven weeks earlier, won all but nine of the 261 seats it was allowed to contest.

Janusz Reykowski, a prominent Politburo reformer, told journalists the results had made party rank-and-file nervous.

"Many of them feel extremely frustrated by the results of the election," he said. "The (reform) policy followed since the 10th Central Committee Plenum (in January) may be endangered."

Polityka, the party's weekly ideological newspaper, said the mood was "disappointment and disillusion."

It hinted this could spell trouble for Jaruzelski and his team of reformers. "Fresh emotions lead to seek place where the mistake was made and who can be blamed for it," it said.

Proliferation: Sweden should be telling its story

By Leonard S. Spector

WASHINGTON — Say "Sweden" these days in Washington and the image of anti-nuclear moralisers immediately comes to mind. I recently visited Stockholm, and it is true that the sex shops seem to be gone. Prime time television served up an international table tennis championship (in which Sweden took first and second place), and the most potent beer you could buy had an alcohol content of 3.2 per cent — a ceiling which some U.S. college towns impose to keep their campuses calm.

But on the big questions of national security, the Swedes know the score. They won't build chemical weapons, for example, but may face a chemical attack. So the Swedish Defence Research Institute, I was told, has quietly manufactured samples of Tabun and Sarin, some of the most potent chemical agents in use today. As a result, Sweden's armed forces are ready for the worst.

Sweden thought long and hard about giving up the bomb, too. Through much of the 1960s the country was hopelessly split on the issue. Gradually public opinion began to turn anti-nuclear, but it was only when the pro-nuclear hard-liners in the military decided that Sweden would be more secure without nuclear weapons than with them that a national consensus to ban the bomb coalesced.

The hard-liners decided that the Soviets would never use nuclear weapons to invade neutral Sweden early in a European conflict because crossing this threshold would invite NATO to use nuclear weapons against Soviet forces elsewhere. If nuclear arms were already being used in Europe and the Soviets thought about invading Sweden

to get a staging area against NATO, Moscow would have to fear that the West might use nuclear arms to thwart the Soviet attack. On the other hand, the hard-liners reasoned, if Sweden deployed a nuclear force it would immediately become a target of Soviet nuclear overkill.

It was not the starry-eyed ideal-

ists who embraced these views, but Sweden's political equivalents of Richard Perle and Caspar Weinberger.

There is a lesson here for today's leaders in the developing world, when they think about the bomb: Sometimes less nuclearisation can mean more security. Today, for example, India's and

Pakistan's nuclear programmes have advanced to the point at which each country can threaten the other with nuclear weapons. Still, neither has built a full-fledged nuclear force. If Pakistan's capabilities keep growing, however, it will soon push India, whose nuclear potential is many times larger, to take this step.

Wouldn't Islamabad be better off to freeze its nuclear programme now rather than trigger an open-ended nuclear arms race that it could never win?

And does India want to deploy a nuclear force against Pakistan that will inevitably make China

anxious? Delhi recently tested an intermediate-range ballistic missile — whose only conceivable target is China and which can be effective only with a nuclear warhead. Does Rajiv Gandhi really believe that deploying such a missile will enhance overall Indian security? — IHT

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Deafness studies sound assuring

By David Holzman

ROUGHLY one-tenth of the U.S. population experiences varying degrees of hearing loss. Knowledge is scant as to why hearing deteriorates, but such losses are rarely reversible, and, unlike eyeglasses for poor eyesight, hearing aids often do a poor job of correction.

Some of that might soon begin to change. Experts contend that the field of hearing research is making discoveries that will result in better hearing aids, more effective prevention of hearing losses and, someday, perhaps even reversal of losses. In 1988, for the first time, researchers observed in chicks the regeneration of hair cells, the transducers that convert the energy of sound into nerve impulses that tell the brain what is heard.

In October 1988, in recognition of the major breakthroughs that might soon become possible (and of powerful lobbying forces as well), then U.S. President Ronald Reagan signed a bill to set up a deafness institute at the National Institutes of Health, the premier temple of biomedical research in the United States.

At the centre of all this attention is, of course, the ear, a truly amazing instrument that makes some of the best scientific measurement tools look crude by comparison. "The extremes of loudness and softness that we encounter possess energies whose ratio is some hundred-million-million-to-one," Peter Dallos, professor of neurobiology and audiology at Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois, wrote in *Arts and Sciences*, the university's magazine. "A normal young adult human can hear sounds whose frequencies extend from a rumble to a squeak, from approximately 20 to 20,000 hertz. And humans can reliably tell a difference in frequency as small as 0.1 per cent. That is, we recognise that a sound of 1,000 hertz is not the same as one whose frequency is 1,001 hertz."

Deep within the ear, in the cochlea, resides the sensory structure, the organ of Corti. Here one finds the hair cells, which were originally thought to wave passively in the breeze, each turned to resonate with the sound of a specific frequency. It was too simple a model to account for the extraordinary range of hearing, says William E. Brownell of the Centre for Hearing Sciences at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine in Baltimore, Maryland. In fact, in the early 1980s,

he says, Hallowell Davis, director of research emeritus of the Central Institute for the Deaf in St. Louis, Missouri, was postulating the existence of a "cochlear amplifier."

But unbeknownst to Davis, Brownell was making an amazing discovery. There are two sets of hair cells, the outer and the inner. The inner ones are the transducers; the role of the outer hair cells had been mysterious. Brownell had been investigating the biophysical properties of the membrane of outer hair cells that had been taken from the ear of a guinea pig when he discovered that they expanded and contracted in response to changing electrical charges. This was so surprising that, he says, "my colleague said, 'We've got problems.' But in fact, they had discovered the amplifier mechanism."

Exactly how the outer hair cells work is unknown. Dallos thinks that they probably expand and contract as fast as 20,000 cycles per second in order to account for the upper range of human hearing. The fastest type of muscle known, the flight muscle of an insect, can expand and contract at just 200 cycles per second. "The mere phenomenon calls for our understanding of a completely novel biological motor for which we have no other example," says Dallos.

Whatever the mechanism, the outer hair cells are the most vulnerable part of the ear. Their deterioration, much more than that of the inner ones, is associated with most hearing loss due to aging, noise and environmental factors. It is perhaps not surprising that such fine instruments should be so susceptible to injury, but scientists have only a sketchy idea as to what damages them.

Noise is one of the biggest culprits. Hearing deteriorates with age much more in industrialised nations than in nonindustrialised nations, says Barbara Bohne, a professor of otolaryngology at Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis. For example, hearing loss among the aged is rare on Easter Island, the Chilean territory in the South Pacific, but some residents who emigrate to the industrialised areas of South America experience hearing loss, she says, "so it's probably noise more than anything else." Nonetheless, the evidence is equivocal. "The changes we see in the aging human ear are not strictly what you would find with noise-induced hearing loss."

"It's a mistake to assume that

all hearing loss is exposure to noise," says Dallos. "The real problem is, the causative factors are probably many, and they probably interact and potentiate one another." Researchers believe diet, chemical pollution and certain drugs also contribute to hearing loss.

For example, scientists postulate that the same dietary fats that contribute to heart attack can lead to deterioration of hearing. Clogged arteries slow the flow of oxygen to the delicate outer hair cells, killing some of them. "We need to keep the circulatory system healthy, to prevent those strokes in the inner ear that result in little hearing losses," says Josef Miller of the department of otolaryngology at the University of Michigan School of Medicine.

Researchers are also studying drugs that, when administered to animals immediately after they have been exposed to noise, can prevent noise-induced damage from occurring by increasing blood flow to their inner ear.

Certain drugs, notably the aminoglycosides, antibiotics whose names end in "mycin" and ciplatin (an anticancer drug), can cause hearing loss.

"There are a number of patients each year where you have a choice of giving a high amount of the drug, but the probability of hearing loss is 90 per cent," says Miller. And certain combinations of drugs are much more deadly to hair cells than any one of the drugs alone, experts say. In the 1960s, patients who took gentamicins and diuretics at the same time, neither of which by itself should have caused permanent toxicity, ended up deaf, says Miller's colleague, Jochen Schacht.

Other drugs such as caffeine and aspirin are known to cause transient tinnitus (ringing in the ears) and slight transient reductions in hearing acuity. It is a matter of debate whether such drugs can cause permanent hearing loss.

So far, prevention is the best medicine. But a variety of developments herald a new era in the treatment of the hearing impaired. New diagnostic tools make it possible for researchers to peer into the inner ear noninvasively, says Dr. Ralph F. Nauton, acting associate director for extramural research at the new National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders of the National Institutes of Health.

"People who used to be told they had nerve deafness and

couldn't be helped by hearing aids can now be helped tremendously," says Dr. Charles I. Berlin, director of the Kresge Hearing Research Laboratory at Louisiana State University Medical School. Those patients were not nerve deaf, he says.

The discovery was made with tiny probe microphones placed deep in an animal's ear to find out what elements of sound were reaching the inner ear from a hearing aid. "Someone reasoned we could do the same thing for our patients. We were surprised to find there was a huge variation in what a hearing aid will do from one ear to the next, and the variation is controlled by the geometry of the ear canal."

Patients were traditionally fitted "by writing a prescription of amplification for a mythical average ear," says Berlin. "That's a way to get only a third or so of the ears properly fitted."

The next frontier in research on hearing is the study of auditory processing that takes place in the brain. This is needed to make use of the latest hearing aid technology, says Robert G. Turner, director of the Audiology and Speech Clinic at the University of California at San Francisco. Hearing aids have recently been developed that use computer technology to selectively dampen certain frequencies and amplify others, which is the kind of thing the outer hair cells do that allows one to listen to a single conversation in a room full of conversations. But Turner complains: "We have this wonderful new technology and we don't know how to use it yet." He is setting up a team to study the matter by, for example, finding out what cues from speech sounds are picked up by the brain and what information in sound "is thrown away. If you have a hearing aid amplifying sounds that are not used by the auditory system, what's the use of that?"

Further research on what the hair cells are doing will contribute as well. "The hope is that by learning more about the effect of hair cell damage on the processing of speech, we might better understand how this digital technology can compensate for that," says Turner.

Moving higher up in the brain, a better understanding of how auditory processing works may have profound implications for the success of cochlear implants, prostheses that replace the cochlea and its hair cells, transducing sound waves into nerve impulses that travel to the auditory cortex.

"In the human, there may be 50,000 nerve fibers leading from the cochlea to the brain," says Dallos. "The very best of the cochlear implants may have 12 to 24 channels, so what we are looking at is a remarkable reduction in information capacity of those implants."

Cochlear implants have so little to offer that they are used only in the profoundly deaf, people who cannot be helped by conventional hearing aids and have no ability to recognise and distinguish between spoken words, says Miller. He says researchers are looking optimistically to patients' becoming able to discriminate 30 to 40 per cent of speech using the prostheses.

But "in spite of that remarkable constriction of information," says Dallos, a tiny minority of those implanted "are able to retrain themselves to understand human speech and appreciate music. That tells us that between our ears is an extremely plastic brain, and we have to think in terms of exploring further the plasticity of that brain."

Speaking of the experiments in which cells regenerated in chicks, Dallos says, "The field must assimilate the remarkable advances in molecular and cell biology, so that we can learn to make mammalian cells regenerate and repair themselves. On the extreme, we have to look at the receiving organ, the brain, to better understand its plasticity, and how it can make use of the information. Then we can put all that together to create the remediation that everyone wants."

— *Insight Magazine*.



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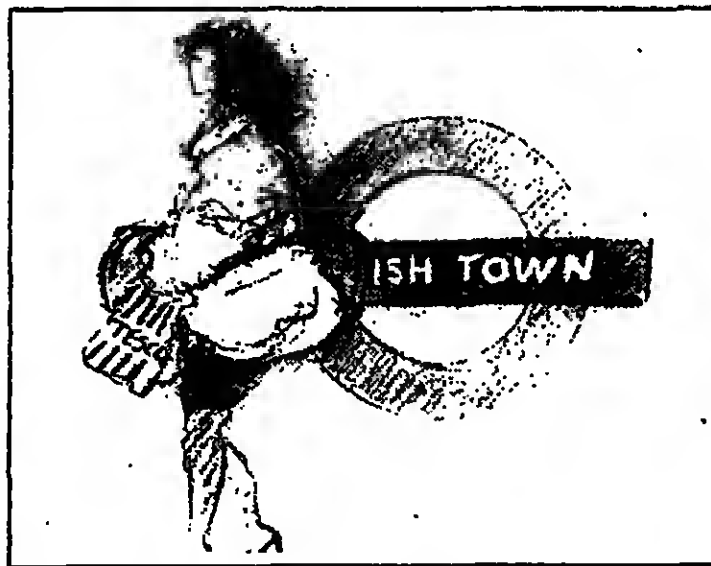
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The Irish brain drain

By Paul Majendie

DUBLIN — Prime Minister Charles Haughey sees unemployment and emigration as Ireland's great two evils.

When he returned to his old campus at University College Dublin recently, angry students chanted "education not emigration."

Jeers and placards saying "go to hell Charlie" greeted Haughey, starting on the campaign trail as he bids in a June 15 general election to win the overall parliamentary majority that has always eluded him.

A smiling Haughey told the protesters: "We organised better demonstrations in our day." He quipped to reporters: "We are lucky we are not in China."

But there is no denying the depth of feeling among students in Ireland where almost one in five people is jobless and up to 30,000 emigrate every year to Britain, Australia and North America in a desperate search for jobs.

That point is hammered poignantly home every year on university campuses around the country when foreign firms chase Irish graduates with tempting job offers even before they sit their final exams.

University careers officers call this annual rite of spring the milk round. Irish industrialists have nicknamed it the great brain robbery.

Today's emigrants are in sharp contrast to the hordes of pover-

ty-stricken Irish who fled in their thousands to the United States after the potato famine that ravaged Ireland in 1847.

Up to 50 per cent of the population on this windswept island on the edge of Europe is under 25. Its excellent, broad-based educational system is recognised as a great success story.

But Ireland still has one of the highest unemployment rates in the European Community — 18.5 per cent — and politicians and demographers both acknowledge that emigration may last well into the next century as a vital safety valve.

Haughey, who called the election after his minority government was defeated in parliament for the sixth time in two years, would love to go down in history as the man who turned the emigration tide with his get-tough approach to the debt-ridden economy.

Brain drain

Sixty million people of Irish descent are dotted around the world. Today, thousands of families are still bidding tearful farewells to their brightest and best because it is often the most qualified who leave.

For example, the Dutch electronics firm Philips has flown whole engineering classes out to the Netherlands from Ireland for interviews.

Deimos Montgomery, careers officer at Trinity College Dublin, said: "On this year's milk round, we had 105 companies coming here compared with 65 last year."

Of the additional 40, up to 25 of those were from Britain.

"They were looking for a very wide range of graduates. Even our philosophers did well this year."

The main attractions are graduates in business studies, electronics and engineering. "Civil engineering has come back in a very dramatic way," Montgomery said.

"Britain leads the way. Second in line are the United States and even Japan. In Europe, we have had Air Italia in Naples interested in people on the manufacturing side. In West Germany, Siemens is the biggest employer interested."

Salaries average about \$18,000 but can stretch to double that for the Irish graduates, he said.

With the European Community heading for a single market in 1992, Montgomery said the

graduates "are beguiled by the siren voices of Europe."

Cheaper air fares mean Paris and Amsterdam can be as close for the mobile Dublin-based worker as Donegal on the north-western tip of Ireland.

Dr. Derek Schofield, careers officer at University College Dublin, agreed. "After 1992, everybody is going to be digging in everybody's back garden. In the next two years I expect to see some very big changes."

What are the big attractions for foreign companies who traipse across the Ireland every year in search of new recruits?

Montgomery said: "A lot of them are happier with the broader Irish educational system. They also say that the Irish show plenty of initiative because they have to work their way through college because of lack of funds. They are enterprising."

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BIS warns of inflation, risk of choking growth

BASLE, Switzerland (R) — Industrial countries must not throw away the gains made in reducing inflation but they also must not risk halting the record period of economic growth since late 1982, the head of the Bank for International Settlements (BIS) said Monday.

"The present task of monetary policy is to try to steer a middle course between these two risks," Wim Duisenberg, president of the BIS which acts as central banker to the world's central banks, said at the institution's annual meeting.

Duisenberg, who is also governor of the Dutch central bank, said central banks had progressively tightened monetary policy but the average inflation rate in industrial nations had quickened modestly over the past year to 4.5 per cent by March.

"The signs of increased inflationary pressures are widespread and we do not yet know whether the present degree of monetary tightness will be enough to bring them under control," he added.

Echoing conclusions by BIS General Manager Alexandre Lamfalussy in the BIS annual report, Duisenberg said the heavy balance of payments imbalances between the United States, Japan and West Germany were not expected to come down much further and would probably rise again in 1990.

He argued that the main burden for dealing with the problem lay with the U.S. which had to

curb demand.

If recent signs that U.S. domestic demand was moderating were not confirmed and if the dollar stayed strong, Washington would need to give first priority to a further cut in its fiscal deficit, he said.

Sharply conflicting with official U.S. views, Duisenberg said Japan and West Germany had no scope for boosting domestic demand to suck in more imports without running the risk of rekindling inflation.

U.S. Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady said two weeks ago Washington should not be expected to act in a vacuum and urged West Germany and Japan to boost their economies and hold interest rates down.

Last year the U.S. had a \$135.3 billion deficit on its current account, while Japan and West Germany respectively had surpluses of \$79.6 billion and \$48.6 billion, BIS figures show.

Duisenberg said the recent strength of the dollar and the weakness of the Japanese yen and Deutschmark had not been helpful in terms of reducing the imbalances.

But the BIS's Lamfalussy said

in the annual report that a sharp fall of the dollar, as urged by some economists, would not necessarily boost exports, as the U.S. probably had not enough spare capacity to raise output.

Also, any dollar depreciation would have to be engineered by bringing down U.S. short-term interest rates, which would only boost inflation and nullify medium-or long-term benefits to the current account, he said.

The BIS has also urged renewed action to help reduce the Third World's \$1.3 trillion debt burden.

"The seriousness of the situation, the human misery involved and its disruptive character for the political system are plain for all to see," Lamfalussy told the meeting Monday.

He noted various proposals, including one by Brady, had been put forward to deal with the problem and it was essential progress should be made.

The problem was still too big for a grand solution, but part of the "stumbling block" could be chipped away, and help should be directed towards those in greatest need, he added.

The Brady plan, launched three months ago, envisages economic reform in debtor countries under surveillance by the International Monetary Fund, new loans and swapping debt for equity in industrial projects as well as formally cutting developing nations' debt.

Algerian government proposes landmark joint venture law

ALGIERS (R) — Algeria has drawn up landmark legislation that would for the first time allow foreign firms to have a majority share in joint ventures.

Diplomats and political sources said a draft law submitted last week to the national assembly would be a major test for the reform drive of President Chadli Benjedid.

Establishment figures of the ruling National Liberation Front (FLN), schooled in socialist orthodoxy, were likely to resist unprecedented new incentives for foreign capital, the sources said.

The government argues that foreign investment is needed to stimulate economic growth and provide jobs for a burgeoning young generation that took to the streets last year to vent economic and social grievances.

One official said the country was better off inviting foreign capital than going further into debt.

Algeria already has external debts of \$22 billion, with a 1989 debt service of some \$6 billion compared to projected export earnings of just over \$9 billion.

Stagnant industries, disappointing agricultural output and one of the world's highest population growth rates also burden the economy.

An official source said the proposed law left foreign firms and their Algerian state partners free to determine the extent of their respective shares in any joint venture.

Foreign firms are now limited

to 49 per cent.

In addition foreign firms would be guaranteed repatriation of profits, freedom to import equipment and raw materials and certain tax exemptions. The small Algerian private sector would for the moment not be included.

The package marks a sharp departure from 27 years of socialism, the state creed after Algeria won its independence from France, and the sources said it was bound to stir controversy.

A similar draft law submitted by the government to the national

assembly in 1986 was never passed.

Since anti-government riots last October in which at least 159 people were killed, President Chadli has accelerated political reforms designed to pave the way to multi-party democracy.

Economic reforms, including the joint venture law and restructuring of state firms to give them more autonomy, have been implemented at a slower pace, largely due to the opposition of entrenched interests, the sources said.

Dollar shoots up on panic buying

LONDON (R) — The dollar rose sharply in Europe Monday to its highest level for 2½ years as investors bet on no further cuts soon in U.S. interest rates.

"It was panic-buying," said one Frankfurt dealer.

Investors' appetite for dollars was fuelled Friday by a strong rise in U.S. producer prices which convinced markets inflation was still a problem for the world's biggest economy.

In addition to being underpinned by relatively high interest rates, the dollar is getting support as a result of concern about the turmoil in China and a flight of funds from yen because of political uncertainty in Japan, dealers said.

There was slight selling in the morning but traders said the outlook for the dollar remained strong.

The Bank of Japan sold dollars for yen in Asian trade but its relentless rise resumed when Europe opened.

"Europeans are buying the dollars which they did not buy before the weekend," another West German dealer said.

Some dealers were wary about the recent pace of the rise. It has soared nearly 15 per cent since the start of the year.

"I'm a bit worried by this rally — we have had a five pence

move since Friday," said Andre Tomaszewicz, a Citibank vice president in Paris.

Dealers were watching out for further central bank intervention to try to contain the dollar's rise. "We may see intervention today but it will be interesting to see whether the Bundesbank makes a big effort," said Joachim Zimmermann with Berliner Bank in West Germany.

There has been no major coordinated central bank dollar selling since May 30, when the dollar stood at 2.01 marks.

Markets were also jittery about whether a meeting of central bankers in Basel would take any decisions about the dollar's recent strength. Industrialised nations are worried about the effect of a stronger dollar on inflation and trade imbalances.

One focus of this week's currency market business will be Thursday's U.S. trade figures for April which will show whether there has been any further easing of the trade imbalances.

The stronger dollar hit other markets. Gold dived to 33 month low and Tokyo stocks closed at their weakest for 1989.

Dwindling market faith in British economic policy combined with the rising dollar knocked sterling down initially but it recovered slightly by midday.

Capitalism thrives in Afghanistan

KABUL (AP) — When Afghan rebels recently blocked a column of gasoline tankers and trucks from reaching the capital, the news was ignored by the government-controlled media.

But the solemn-faced men who trade currency in the open courtyard along the Kabul river took note, quickly moving the dollar up against the weak afghani.

Two days later, word came that government troops had reopened the road, and the convoy made the 450-kilometre journey from the Soviet border to Kabul without being bombed or rocketed.

The dollar dropped. Kabul's money market, or Serai Shazad, is a balconied building supported by rusting beams with an inner courtyard where camel trains once stopped overnight.

The money dealers occasionally pause from counting bricks of

blue, pink and beige notes to tend goats and other animals grazing nearby.

For more than a decade, Afghanistan has been plagued by civil war and ruled by a government that professes Marxist economic theories. But, as it has for hundreds of years, free enterprise rules Kabul.

The 11-year-old war between the Soviet-backed government and the Mujahideen has at times created critical shortages of food, fuel and medicine. But for those with money, Kabul is a place of plenty.

Wooden containers line the roads where merchants sell their goods in western Kabul. Business is always brisk at "Muj market" where goods such as rice, flour and kerosene are sold. They find their way to the market after being taken from convoys passing through rebel-controlled territory.

The dusty, pot-holed streets and narrow, winding alleys of the city's old bazaar are overflowing with everything from expensive 100-year-old carpets to camel's legs. Soviet combat uniforms, second-hand blue jeans, Japanese-made video recorders and top-of-the-line Mercedes cars.

The roads running north to the Soviet Union and south and east to Pakistan are the city's lifeline, the tides of their accessibility a key factor in the rhythm of the Serai Shazad.

Helicopter gunships, tanks and rocket launchers often are pressed into service to open the roads and allow the convoys to carry food, fuel and sometimes weapons to Kabul.

At other times, the trucks rumble into the capital with ease. For money dealer Juma Mohammad, that means one thing — even the rebels have their price.

"It's really quite simple," Mohammad said. "There is a road. Somebody controls the road, somebody wants to use the road and deals are made. It's strictly business."

Pounds, marks, francs and just about every other currency are traded at the Serai Shazad, but the dollar reigns supreme.

The traders' offices are piled with dollar bills — sometimes tens of thousands of them — all neatly stacked on the dusty, chipped cabinets.

"We are international businessmen," said the turbaned, 38-year-old Mohammad. "We buy and sell everything."

ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

Jordan, Syria discuss transport

AMMAN (Petra) — The joint Jordanian-Syrian committee charged with promoting transport and transit operations between the two countries opened a meeting here Monday. The committee will discuss matters related to exempting public and private transport vehicles from duty if they carry passengers or national products. The committee members will also discuss the prospect of concluding a bilateral transport agreement that would organise the transportation of travellers and goods on roads between the two neighbouring states. Also on the agenda is a report on the 1988 closing accounts, the general budget, and operations for 1989.

Switzerland bans ivory trade

BERNE (R) — Switzerland has announced it would ban trading in ivory, joining a string of governments around the world trying to protect the elephant. The ban will begin next January, prohibiting the import, export, and transit of products from the world's largest land animal.

Italian judges, lawyers strike

ROME (R) — Italian judges and trial lawyers began a two-day strike Monday in protest over shortages of administrative staff which they say are paralysing the judicial system. The stoppage, which will halt most trials and criminal investigations for 48 hours, was called by the National Association of Magistrates to highlight staff shortages that can delay criminal cases for years. "We are striking in protest at the 'strike' that the political classes have proclaimed for years and which has paralysed justice," said association president Raffaele Bertoni. The association has also complained at delays in recruiting hundreds of extra judges, magistrates and court-house stenographers needed when a new penal code comes into force in Italy in October. "Unless personnel and support structures are prepared in time, the system is destined to die at birth and we want to let the people know that we will not be the slightest bit to blame," Bertoni said.

S. Korea loses low cost privilege

SEOUL (AP) — More foreign firms are withdrawing from South Korea, mainly because of growing labour costs, the Bank of Korea has reported. The report showed 49 foreign firms pulled out between January and May this year, compared with 26 in the same period last year. U.S. firms topped the list with 21, followed by Japan with 11. Average wages in South Korea rose by 20 per cent last year. Many firms have been hit by labour disputes and strikes for more pay and better working conditions. South Korean government officials predicted more foreign firms would consider transferring their plants from South Korea to South East Asia and other countries with cheaper wages.

Ethiopia orders Boeings worth \$260m

SEATTLE, Washington (AP) — Ethiopian Airlines has ordered four Boeing 757 passenger jets and one 757 freighter in a deal valued at about \$260 million, Boeing commercial airplanes announced Friday. The airline also has options on two more 757s. All aircraft will be powered by Pratt and Whitney PW2040 engines. The 757 passenger models for the Ethiopian flag carrier will seat 156 passengers. The airline will use them mainly to replace 727 jetliners on regional routes, but the planes also will be equipped for long-range operations, Boeing said. The new order brings to 564 the total number of 757s ordered from Boeing.

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Monday, June 12, 1989
Central Bank official rates

	Buy	Sell	French franc	83.5	84.3
U.S. dollar	570.9	576.9	Japanese yen (for 100)	386.7	390.6
Pound Sterling	879.5	888.2	Dutch guilder	251.2	253.7
Deutschmark	282.9	285.7	Swedish crown	84.3	85.1
Swiss franc	326.2	329.5	Italian lire (for 100)	39.0	39.4
			Belgian franc (for 10)	135.0	136.4

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Monday.

One Sterling	1.5325/35	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.2005/15	Canadian dollar
	2.0288/95	Deutsche marks
	2.2838/48	Dutch guilders
	1.7585/95	Swiss francs
	42.43/48	Belgian francs
	6.8650/8700	French francs
	146.21/43.2	Italian lire
	148.75/85	Japanese yen
	6.8025/75	Swedish crowns
	7.3090/3140	Norwegian crowns
	7.8775/8825	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	358.70/359.10	U.S. dollars

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

By Reuters

SYDNEY — Market closed for national holiday.

JAPAN — Prices were down in record low trading in reaction to the dollar's surge against the yen. The Nikkei index lost 241.97 to 33,398.01.

HONG KONG — Prices of blue chips rebounded after last week's plunge, as fears of civil war in China lessened on news that Deng Xiaoping was still in control. The Hang Seng index gained 171.10 to 2,439.48.

SINGAPORE — Strong buying interest and bargain-hunting by institutions saw the Straits Times industrial index record its largest single-day rise in this year. The index jumped 35.27 points to close at 1,276.48 in active trading.

BOMBAY — Share prices finished mixed in heavy trading shortened by one hour to let brokers complete settlement work. Tata Steel firm 7.5 rupees to 1,367.5.

FRANKFURT — Shares closed mixed in thin, directionless trading as the dollar's surge above 2.05 marks instilled uncertainty into a basically bullish market. The DAX index closed at 1,436.67, off 0.62 of a point from Friday's close.

ZURICH — Shares closed mixed to lower as higher interest rates and the strong dollar weighed on the market. The all-share Swiss index slipped 0.2 to 1,065.9.

PARIS — Prices were mostly weaker by mid-session in quiet trading, amid concern over the strength of the dollar and the possibility of higher European interest rates.

LONDON — Prices in late trading eased towards the day's lows, reflecting a weak trend on Wall Street. But selling interest remained relatively light. At 1452 GMT the FTSE 100 index was down 7.3 to 2,134.8.

NEW YORK — Waves of futures-related programme selling drove stocks sharply lower. The Dow was down 20 at 2,494 in mid-morning.

MEES analyses new OPEC accord

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — The new OPEC agreement boosting oil production to 19.5 million barrels a day is "patched up and potentially leaky," but has averted strife in the 13-member group, the Middle East Economic Survey (MEES) reported Monday.

The respected oil industry newsletter, published in Cyprus, stressed that despite imperfections, the agreement hammered out by oil ministers of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) in Vienna last week "could stand a decent chance of survival."

The newsletter's editor, Ian Seymour, said in a report on the

June 5-7 conference, that "the price and production free-for-all of 1986 and 1988, caused by breakdowns in OPEC discipline, are still very fresh in the memory. Such a crisis could, of course, recur this time around."

But he stressed in a lengthy report from Vienna that "a certain brightening of the atmosphere toward the end of the meeting, which had earlier been fraught with acrimonious tension, gives rise to hopes that the worst can be avoided."

"In fact, the elements of a very practical deal are potentially in place," he noted.

Some OPEC countries had been pressing for an overall ceiling

of 20 million barrels a day, citing market demand. But the group opted for a lower figure, fearing a price backlash.

Nonetheless, the influential eight-member ministerial monitoring committee will meet in Paris in September to consider a further ceiling increase to 20 million barrels a day that, if approved, would take effect Oct. 1.

Seymour quoted Saudi Oil Minister Hisham Nizar as saying in an interview: "I would have liked to see 20 million barrels a day. And I still think ultimately in September we would go up to 20 million barrels because I honestly feel demand in the market is much stronger than 20 million barrels a day."

At first glance, last week's agreement on limiting overall production to 19.5 million barrels a day for the second half of the year, one million more than the

January-June ceiling, appeared less than total.

Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Ecuador and Gabon all distanced themselves from the agreement, which gave all OPEC members straight 5.4 per cent increase in their production quotas for the second half of the year.

All these countries have been seeking hefty increases in their quotas.

Kuwait was the only one to flatly refuse to accept its new quotas of 1.35 million barrels a day, although it indicated it will seek to limit its output to 1.35 million barrels, the quota level it wants, for the time being.

"With our existing system, it is almost physically impossible to produce less than 1.35 million barrels a day, given our needs for internal refining, external refining and commitments to customers who have been with us for 20 to 40 years," Kuwait's Oil Minister Ali Khalifa Al Sabah, told Seymour in an interview.

Libya, with a quota equal to Kuwait's has stressed that it wants to retain parity with the Gulf state if Kuwait's ceiling is raised, pointing to further discussion with the group.

The UAE, considered one of the major violators of earlier production quotas, accepted the Vienna agreement which pegged its ceiling at 1.041 million barrels a day.

But MEES said it was doubtful whether the UAE will reduce their current production of around 1.5 million barrels a day, the quota they have demanded for months.

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Ryzhkov takes charge of efforts to end Uzbek unrest

MOSCOW (Agencies) — Prime Minister Nikolai Ryzhkov flew to the Fergana region of Soviet Uzbekistan Monday in an apparent attempt to end more than a week of rioting in which at least 100 people have been reported killed.

TASS news agency said Ryzhkov was accompanied by Viktor Chebrikov, a fellow member of the ruling politburo and former KGB chief, who currently heads a commission on legal affairs. They are to consider questions of normalising the situation in the Fergana region, a scene of inter-ethnic disturbances over the past weeks. TASS said without giving further details of their programmes.

It was the first visit by members of the central Soviet leadership to the Fergana valley since rioting began about 10 days ago, apparently with attacks by Uzbeks on the local Meskhetian minority in the regional capital, Tashkent.

Uzbek Communist Party leader Rafik Nishanov left a meeting in Moscow of the congress of People's Deputies, the new Soviet parliament, to go to Fergana soon after the violence erupted, but returned to the capital shortly afterwards.

The dispatch of Ryzhkov and Chebrikov — announced by TASS just minutes after President Mikhail Gorbachev arrived in Bonn on an official visit — appeared to show the Kremlin believed local authorities were unable to end the violence.

It followed the failure by the country's new parliament, the Congress of People's Deputies, to take any firm decision on Fergana during its two-week inaugural session which ended Friday.

Soviet press reports said at least 100 people had been killed and 1,000 injured in the rioting, which appears to have continued and even spread in recent days despite the sending in of more than 7,000 Interior Ministry troops.

Most of Fergana's 15,000 strong Meskhetian population have fled to refugee camps, but the rioting has widened with crowds attacking local Communist Party offices and police stations and marching under green Muslim banners.

Muslim sources in Moscow, in contact with activist groups in Tashkent, told Reuters they believed the death toll was as high as 159.

Pravda said Monday that two more people, both Uzbeks, were killed when crowd of 350 to 400 people, many travelling by trucks or private cars, attacked a refugee camp near the Fergana city of Kokand to which 2,000 Meskhetians had fled.

Interior Ministry troops, flown in by helicopter to head them off, first fired warning shots in the air, but the violence escalated, the Communist Party daily said.

In response, shooting broke out and also involving automatic weapons and two attackers were killed and five wounded in the exchange of fire, the Pravda reporter said. "In the darkness, the extremists managed to flee."

Interior Ministry officials have

blamed the attacks on outside agitators who came pouring into the valley in cars and trucks. Minister Vadim Bakatin called them opponents of Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev's reforms, which have included a crackdown on high-level corruption in Uzbekistan.

Uzbek activists, however, point to rampant unemployment, harsh living conditions in the impoverished cotton-growing republic and worsening pollution as the deeper causes for the violence.

The state-run television evening news programme "Vremya" on Sunday night showed some of an estimated 14,500 Meskhi Turks housed at a camp huddled under canvas tents to shelter them from the blazing sun.

"The most explosive situation is here, in the refugee camp," the report said.

A spokesman for the Turks interviewed on Vremya denounced their "immediate evacuation" from Soviet Central Asia to "save our people."

The government newspaper Izvestia said conditions are so

hard in the camp that "some of the 20 babies born in the past week were delivered on the bare ground."

The Turks have appealed repeatedly to the Kremlin to allow them to return to their original territory in Georgia, but so far to no avail.

At Kimyagar settlement, near the city of Kokand, young people who arrived in cars smashed kiosks and shop windows Saturday, attacking people who tried to stop them, the labour daily Trud reported.

A. Anasorov, a resident of the village of Komsomolsk, was quoted by Izvestia as saying that Saturday "a bus drove into our street. I saw how they took a Turkish boy out of the bus — he was terribly beaten and covered in blood."

Anasorov claimed hoodlums cut the ears off a 10-year-old boy.



Bush arms proposals fall short — Karpov

NEW YORK (R) — A Soviet official said Monday that President George Bush's proposals for East-West cutbacks in troops and conventional arms were unacceptable in key areas and had been overplayed by the Western press.

Deputy Soviet Foreign Minister Victor Karpov, who has served as chief negotiator in East-West arms talks, also accused Washington of dragging its feet about negotiations on short-range nuclear weapons.

Karpov was commenting in an editorial in the New York Times about proposals Bush made at a North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) summit in Brussels last month.

The Soviet official said early agreement could be expected on military cutbacks in some areas as Bush's proposals for reductions in tanks and armoured personnel carriers were virtually the same as those tabled earlier by the Warsaw Pact.

The same, he said, could be expected of proposed reductions in artillery and helicopters. But he said Bush's call for a 15 per cent reduction in combat aircraft on both sides was unjustified as the United States was seeking to include "a purely defensive weapon, fighter interceptor aircraft."

He criticised Bush's call for a reduction in NATO and Warsaw Pact troop strength as too narrow, and something that would tip the balance in favour of the Western alliance.

Bush proposed reducing U.S.

troop strength in Europe by 30,000 to 275,000, and called on Moscow to withdraw 325,000 Soviet troops to reach the 275,000 level on its side.

"President Bush spoke only about cuts in American and Soviet forces stationed on the territory of foreign states in Europe," Karpov wrote.

"In the Warsaw Pact, only the Soviet Union has troops outside its frontiers, whereas in NATO (in addition to the U.S.) Britain, France, Belgium and Canada have such troops."

By remaining outside the proposed U.S.-Soviet reduction, such troops would give NATO a 100,000-man superiority, Karpov said.

He said that in the aftermath of the NATO summit many commentators made it appear that Bush had taken the initiative in disarmament from Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

He said: "It does not matter to us who takes the palm of leadership in advancing some or other idea."

He said the Kremlin regarded "the absence, in President Bush's (NATO) statement, of a positive official response to the Warsaw Pact proposal for immediate talks on short-range tactical nuclear weapons in Europe as a deficiency, and a serious one."

By postponing such talks, he added, Bush was ignoring growing popular sentiment in West Germany and other European countries and possibly allowing time for the development of new tactical nuclear missiles.

U.S., Vietnam plan high-level meeting

GENEVA (R) — The United States and Vietnam will discuss Cambodian peace prospects in Geneva this week in the highest-level talks between the two countries in a decade, diplomats said Monday.

They said the meeting would be between U.S. Deputy Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger and Vietnamese Deputy Prime Minister Nguyen Co Thach, both due to attend a U.N.-sponsored international conference on Indochinese refugees starting Tuesday.

Neither embassy confirmed nor denied that a meeting was scheduled, but diplomats said it would probably take place on Tuesday at the U.S. mission in Geneva.

There have been no senior level talks between the United States and Vietnam, which fought a bloody war which ended in 1975, since Vietnamese forces invaded Cambodia in 1978.

The meeting between Eagleburger and Thach, who is in charge of his country's foreign relations, will focus on preparations for an international conference aimed at ending the Cambodian war, which is due to take place in France in August, the diplomats said.

Diplomatic moves to restore peace to Cambodia gained momentum recently following Hanoi's decision to pull all its troops out by Sept. 30.

The conference, to be attended by the warring Cambodian factions, regional states, China and other permanent U.N. Security Council members, is expected to sanction any settlement reached at a prior meeting in July between the Vietnamese-backed Phnom Penh government and the guerrillas.

It will also set up a body to monitor the Vietnamese troop withdrawal.

Recruit fallout over but scandals hit Uno

TOKYO (R) — Japan's top law officials rang down the curtain on an investigation into the long-running Recruit scandal, Monday, just as Prime Minister Sosuke Uno was hit by two minor problems of his own.

Uno, who succeeded Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita with "Mr. Clean" reputation because he was untainted by the Recruit shares-for-favours affair, apologised to parliament Monday over irregularities in reporting political donations.

But he refused to comment on reports of an extra-marital affair with a geisha.

The donations involved 100 million yen (\$680,000) in income from sales of tickets to a fund-raising party to mark Uno's 25th year as a member of parliament.

His office had illegally misrepresented the funds as a block donation, instead of as income from a party, Japanese law requires that political contributions must be described in detail.

"I severely upbraided my secretary over this and I promise we will not do this again," Uno said in the lower house budget committee in reply to an opposition question.

Uno turned aside questions in parliament over reports of an

affair with a geisha, said to have ended in 1986.

The Sunday Mainichi, a weekly news magazine, last week reported that he had paid about three million yen (\$20,000) to keep the woman for four months.

"I will refrain from commenting in public on private matters," Uno told the session twice Monday. He has not confirmed or denied the report.

At one point the committee chairman tried to bar repeated questions on how such an affair can affect Uno's international standing.

But Uno eventually replied: "I will continue to take heed of Japan's international reputation."

Many Japanese politicians have been known to keep mistresses, but it is rare for such cases to become a political issue.

Political analysts said the two minor scandals, which came to light during Uno's first week in office, could worsen his already low popularity rating.

It stood at 35.5 per cent, the second lowest approval rating of a new Japanese government in the post-war era, according to the results of a poll by the national daily Yomiuri Shimbun reported last week.



Sosuke Uno

Earlier, Justice Minister Kazuo Tanikawa delivered a final report in parliament on the Recruit scandal, Japan's biggest post-war political scandal which brought down the government of Takeshita.

Tanikawa's report held no information not already contained in an interim account issued last month. It outlined the indictments of two politicians and of four politicians' secretaries, and the arrests of 13 businessmen and officials.

Takeshita, his predecessor Yasuhiro Nakasone and former ministers Kiichi Miyazawa and Shintaro Abe, have all admitted receiving donations from Recruit, but denied any wrongdoing.

Bomb kills 6 at Delhi rail station

NEW DELHI (Agencies) — A bomb exploded in New Delhi railway station on Monday killing at least six people and injuring 44, police said.

"It was a crude bomb. It was not an accident," a police spokesman said.

The blast in the heart of the Indian capital occurred shortly after 10 a.m. (0430 GMT) when the busy station was crowded. Witnesses said the blast left the main waiting hall splattered with blood and littered with clothing and luggage. The bomb, apparently concealed in a bedding-roll, gouged a small crater in the concrete floor.

The police spokesman said it was impossible to say at this stage who was responsible for the blast, but Delhi authorities said last week that Sikh extremists might be planning to strike.

"It was a time bomb and a very, very powerful one," Additional Police Commissioner Rajindra Mohan said at the blood-spattered scene.

He said forensic experts had recovered a portion of the bomb that contained an intact battery cell and nuts and bolts, intended to injure people in the station.

Mohan declined to speculate who might be responsible. An officer at the police control centre said six people were killed and 40 others were taken to a nearby hospital.

The bomb left a crater about 30 centimetres deep and 60 centimetres in diameter in the floor of the passenger hall. Sandals, sunglasses, cooked rice and bread were strewn across the floor, blown by the force of the blast or dropped by panicked people who had been waiting for trains.

The bomb went off at a peak hour at the station when most trains from eastern India arrive in New Delhi. Between 600 and 700 people were in the passenger hall at the time.

More than 150,000 people and at least 158 trains pass through the station daily.

Mohan noted that waiting passengers often lie or sleep on the floor of the hall, and he said many more people might have been killed had they been standing when the bomb went off.

Alfonsin to hand over power to Menem by Aug. 10

BUENOS AIRES (Agencies) — Argentine President Raul Alfonsin will probably cut short his six-year mandate by four months and hand over power to President-elect Carlos Menem by Aug. 10, according to Menem associates and other officials.

"It's very probable that the transfer of power will take place in the first 10 days of August," former Supreme Court Justice Julio Oyhanarte, Menem's secretary of justice-designate, told Reuters in a telephone interview.

Alfonsin, under pressure to step down in the face of the country's worst-ever economic crisis, decided last week to negotiate an early transfer of power. His term of office ends Dec. 10.

Menem's Peronists crushed the ruling Radicals in May 14 elections and will return to power 13 years after a military coup toppled their last government, headed by Maria Estela Peron, widow of movement founder Juan Peron.

The exact date of the handover will be set by Menem and Alfonsin, who are due to meet after Peronist and Radical negotiators hammer out an agreement on the transition, Oyhanarte said.

He said Alfonsin, who succeeded a military regime in December 1983, would seek to shorten his mandate through a bill he will soon send to congress.

Menem last week filled most cabinet posts, many of them with party outsiders not associated

with previous Peronist administrations. His economic team was busy preparing a plan to rid Argentina of hyper-inflation that last month spurred bloody food riots in several cities and crippled production.

Menem has said he would not push Alfonsin to step down early. But last week, after he appointed his cabinet and fleshed out an economic plan, the Peronist said he was prepared to take power any time.

Shortly after the Peronist election landslide, Alfonsin offered to step down early, but he could not agree with Menem on terms. The main differences were over economic policies and how Alfonsin could leave office without resigning.

Soviet panel quietly shifting foreign policy, defector says

By Bryan Brumley
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A Soviet defector has been telling U.S. government agencies some of the inner secrets of the little understood Kremlin body that plays a key role in charting Soviet foreign policy.

Under Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, the International Department of the Communist Party Central Committee has shifted course, loosening its ties with Marxist parties in the West and cultivating relations with other less radical elements, said the defector, Evgeny Novikov.

"Gorbachev started to promote the principles of his 'new thinking,' to find new clients, sometimes at the expense of old clients, to find parties and groups that have influence in capitalist countries," Novikov said in a recent interview with the Associated Press.

The new approach has brought the Soviet Union closer to American and Western European en-

vironmental and peace groups that agree with Gorbachev's approach to disarmament and attempts to lessen international tension, said Novikov.

Because his work in the International Department centred on Arab and Middle Eastern affairs, Novikov declined to speculate on which Western groups were sympathetic to Gorbachev's new approach.

U.S. intelligence officials, who said they were not familiar with the specifics of Novikov's case, confirmed that Novikov's description met their understanding of the International Department.

The International Department, for which Novikov worked from 1970 until his defection last year, was the successor to the Comintern, or Communist International, disbanded by Josef Stalin in 1947.

The Comintern was the main organ of Kremlin influence on communist parties outside the Soviet Union, a means of molding political platforms and some-

times recruiting intelligence agents, according to numerous accounts by defectors.

The International Department shares with the Foreign Ministry responsibility for formulating Soviet foreign policy, which is decided by the ruling politburo, Novikov said. The Foreign Ministry carries out state-to-state contacts, while the International Department handles party-to-party matters.

Senior International Department experts are driven in chauffeur-driven cars, receive salaries equal to those of deputy ministers and have access to intelligence reports from the KGB and the defence and foreign affairs ministries, Novikov said in a paper prepared for the U.S. government.

After Gorbachev rose to power in March 1985, he tried to gain control of the International Department and change its inner workings by appointing as its chief Anatoly Dobrynin, who had served as the Soviet ambassador to Washington since the 1960s.



Spectators watch the crash Thursday of the Soviet MiG-29 shortly after the opening of the Paris air show at Le Bourget

Second MiG-29 performs over Le Bourget

PARIS (Agencies) — Thousands of visitors and industry professionals cast their eyes skyward over Le Bourget airport Sunday to watch the first demonstration flight by a Soviet MiG-29 since the crash of an identical fighter last week.

The camouflage-green fighter, emblazoned with a red star and the number 304 on one vertical stabiliser, is the surviving MiG-29 of two that arrived at the Paris air show six days ago.

It flew loops and spins in the blue sky and swooped over the runway Sunday afternoon, its engines spitting pale fire. The crowd applauded as the cockpit popped open at the end of the flight and the pilot, Roman Taskaev, emerged.

The sister MiG-29 crashed just after the opening of the air show Thursday, but pilot Anatoly

Kvochur managed to eject at 150 metres and open his parachute enough to break his fall.

Soviet officials said Kvochur, who suffered bruises and stomach injuries, was released from a French army hospital Friday and would appear Tuesday at a news conference at Le Bourget, the airfield north of Paris that is the site of the world's most famous air show.

No precise cause of the crash has been disclosed, but on Thursday officials said the left engine of the MiG-29 failed to fire as the pilot was doing a low-level left turn. The plane turned slightly on its side, fell to the ground and burst into flame.

A Soviet aviation expert said a bird could have caused the MiG-29 crash on Thursday.

R. Belyakov told the army newspaper Krasnaya Zvezda an

investigation had cleared pilot Kvochur of all guilt.

"Belyakov believes that the engine could have failed because of a foreign object entering it while on the ground owing to the jet stream from passing aircraft or from a mid-air collision with a bird," the newspaper said.

It quoted Belyakov, chief designer of the Mikoyan aeronautical concern, as saying French and Soviet specialists were continuing their investigation into the crash.

Krasnaya Zvezda said Kvochur had steered the plane to the ground, away from stands crowded with spectators watching the air display.

The Air Show Daily newspaper, quoting Soviet pilot Evgeny Frolov, said Kvochur was saved by an ejection seat called a K-36 which operated well despite the jet being tilted at an angle.

The seat also is installed in the Sukhoi-27 cockpit, seen for the first time in the West during the air show.

The SU-27, part of a large group of Soviet aircraft on display, has been the star of the skies all week.

Two Soviet pilots are taking turns flying the jet, each performing his own style of routine. Victor Pugachev is the one capturing the most attention with his flamboyant, beyond-the-vertical low-speed pitch-up manoeuvre that has been nicknamed "Pugachev's Cobra."

The pose taken in midair by the jet, which has an arched fuselage and a sharp downturned nose, resembles a striking cobra against the sky. The manoeuvre is used in combat to get on the tail of an opponent that had formerly been in pursuit.

COLUMN

Priest wants parish to leave him alone

TAMWORTH, England (AP) — A Roman Catholic priest who claims he cannot find peace even in the bathroom, has told his parish that he wants to be alone. "I have suffered more during my nine months in Tamworth than I have in 22 years as a priest," the Rev. Teddy O'Brien told his congregation in the Midlands town of Staffordshire. O'Brien said that he was once stuck in his presbytery bathroom for 10 minutes while two women, who had keys to the house, waited outside to see him. "Other parishioners ring the doorbell and bang the door at all hours with meaningless queries that could wait until the following morning," said the priest, who announced that he had changed the locks in the house. "I am not a time-to-see priest," said O'Brien, whose plea for solitude was reported in the Sunday Telegraph. "None of us is. But we need rest as much as anyone else. We're only human."

124-year-old mystery lingers

FORT WAYNE, Indiana (AP) — The contents of a 124-year-old time capsule buried near the corner of Trinity Episcopal Church will remain a mystery. The time capsule was to be opened Sunday at the climax of a celebration of 150 years of an Episcopal presence in the city. Those plans had to be scrapped. "We can't get it out," the wall would come tumbling down, if we pulled it out," said the Reverend Craig Kallio, pastor of the 450-member church. "We're just trying to find out what's in it," Kallio said.

No more homemade brew in Kenya

NAIROBI (AP) — President Daniel Arap Moi has banned brewing and drinking of all traditional beer in Kenya. "I am prepared to lead a drunken nation," the Voice of Kenya quoted Moi as saying. "I am today, June 10, all brewing drinking of traditional beer, during traditional ceremony must cease." The church and state leaders are addressing funds raising meeting in Nairobi, headquarters of tea growing in the western Kenya 200 kilometres from the capital, Nairobi. In Kenya, various brands of traditional beer are made mainly at home from fermented honey, sugarcane, nut, and grains like corn and sorghum.

Yodelling into world records

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Ashrita Furman, who has set Guinness world records than one else, has added yodelling to his claim to fame. The New Yorker yodeller for 27 hours. He said that he held the current Guinness world record of 26 hours set in 1984 by Errol Bird in Lisburn, northern Ireland. "I feel really good," he said after completing the grind at the Guinness Museum at Fisherman's Wharf. If certified, the record will be Furman's 15th. His other include running a marathon while juggling three balls — in three hours, 22 minutes. "I used to be a pure bookworm," said the 34-year-old bachelor.

Global weather

(major world cities)

	MIN.	MAX.	WIND
AMSTERDAM	10-20	21-20	Clear
ATHENS	20-28	31-28	Clear
BANGKOK	27-31	36-30	Clear
BARRANCO	28-32	32-30	Clear
BELGRADE	13-22	27-20	Clear
BOMBAY	23-37	37-30	Clear
BRAZILIA	19-28	30-20	Clear
CHICAGO	14-20	25-20	Clear
COPENHAGEN	07-15	19-10	Clear
FRANKFURT	22-27	31-24	Clear
GENOVA	17-27	32-27	Clear
HONG KONG	22-27	32-27	Clear
ISLANDIA	17-23	24-20	Clear
LONDON	12-14	23-17	Clear
LOS ANGELES	18-25	30-24	Clear
MADRID	22-27	32-24	Clear
MONTREAL	14-25	32-22	Cloudy
MOSCOW	18-21	29-24	Clear
NEW DELHI	23-37	37-30	Clear
NEW YORK	15-24	27-22	Clear
PARIS	12-14	22-17	Clear
ROME	16-25	30-24	Clear
TOKYO	13-25	30-24	Clear
WASH.	14-25	30-24	Clear